

**The Horse Nettle.**  
This pest of many a good meadow farm is commonly found from Connecticut south to Florida and west to Texas. It is very abundant in portions of the prairie States, especially Illinois and Missouri, occurring not only in fields and along roadsides, but in the streets of cities and on vacant lots and too often in cultivated fields, where it does great injury to crops. Its common name, horse nettle, botanical Solanum carolinense, does not indicate that this weed is closely related to the cultivated potato, but the botanical name of the genus shows close relationship. An examination of the flowers shows they much resemble those of the potato, being bluish or whitish in color. The berry, commonly called the seed, also resembles that formed on the potato. The leaves have large prickles on the midrib and some of the larger lateral ribs. They are also slightly hairy. The stem is beset with



**A Troublesome Weed.**  
Numerous stout prickles. Many of the related plants of this genus are annuals, but horse nettle is a deep-rooted perennial, its roots often extending three feet or more into the soil. This fact makes it a very tenacious weed, very difficult to exterminate. For this reason the weed grows in dense patches, which are carefully avoided by stock in pastures. I would advise plowing the land at this season, allowing none of the leaves to appear. The plants should be kept down the succeeding year. Plow the ground again next summer. Sow thickly with rye and keep watch of the nettle, allowing none to grow. Careful work for two seasons should remove it.—Farm and Home.

**Sheep and Short Grass.**  
Sheep are partial to short grass and will travel over a field of long grass to select the short herbage. White clover is the best of all the foods for sheep and they prefer it to other kinds. When seeding old pastures, or beginning with the new, white clover seed should be used liberally. Sheep will seek the shade during the day, preferring to graze after the sun begins to set, and it is for that reason that they cannot be shut up at night as a protection against dogs.

**For Hanging Milk in Wells.**  
Where ice is not at hand, the custom of hanging milk cans in the well, for coolness, is often practiced. The illustration shows a device for holding four cans securely within the well, with a chance to draw up water between the cans, the curved iron rods affording this chance. If the well is not large enough for a square frame, a stout hoop can be used, thus economizing space. It is surprising how nicely milk and many other articles can thus be kept in a deep well, even in extraordinarily hot weather. It is equally surprising how many families fail to use this simple device, which is so easily made and so very convenient.

**What High Breeding Does.**  
Individual records of noted animals of certain breeds are valuable and important in many ways. While a farmer may not have a cow equaling one with a high record, yet the records of noted cows are indications of what can be accomplished by breeds. The breed is brought to a higher degree of improvement also by the endeavor of enterprising breeders to suppress existing records. It is the desire to compete and excel with individuals that has made the reputations of the breeds.

**Fall Fresh Cows.**  
The annual yield of milk is easily 10 per cent greater from cows fresh in the fall than from those which calve

with the coming grass. If well fed and comfortably housed they yield a good quantity of milk all winter, and as the flow begins to cease materially there comes the favorable change to grass, and the yield is increased and held for some time.

**Cost of Growing Corn.**  
I send you the result of keeping an account of the cost of producing a field of corn, containing fourteen acres. I kept an account of time in breaking, pulverizing, planting, cultivating, harvesting, etc., and charged for the same such costs as the labor could be hired for in this locality and board themselves. I could give an itemized account, but I will not take the space. The land, fourteen acres, was valued at \$40 per acre, and a charge of 8 per cent interest was made on the investment. Cost of corn in crib per bushel was 19 cents of 620 bushels to the field. The fodder was estimated at twenty-one tons, or about one and one-half tons per acre, and cost in the mow \$4.41 per ton. The corn was husked by a "corn husker." This is the cost should I have hired everything done. The fodder cost in cash, not including any of my own labor or labor swapped for or bartering hands, etc., \$1.03 per ton. The total cost of corn in crib and fodder in mow, including the 8 per cent interest, was \$192.20. The value of the corn at 25 cents per bushel, and the fodder at \$4 per ton was \$239, leaving a profit on the fourteen acres of \$46.80, saying nothing about loss of soil fertility, or barnyard manure applied to the field. The fodder to be worth as much as the corn would have to be worth \$7.38 per ton. This would increase the profit somewhat. One thing about the account showed the difference about estimating and knowing. When the corn was being husked it was estimated by good farmers at sixty bushels per acre. But when the corn and land both were measured, it was found to yield only a fraction over forty-four bushels per acre.—C. L. Hawkins, in Indiana Farmer.

**Growing Early Plants.**  
An economical mode of growing early tomatoes, melons, etc., where but a few are desired, to produce crops for home use, is to use egg shells. Break the shells near the small ends, fill with rich dirt and plant a few seeds of the kind desired. The shells may be set in a shallow pan or box of bran and placed in the sunlight on warm days, care being taken not to expose them to cold at night. When transplanting simply set the shell with the plant in the ground. The roots of the plant will soon break through the shell.

**For Picking Fruit.**  
A very useful and convenient contrivance for picking peaches, pears, etc., is made in the following manner: Take a strong butter tub of the smallest size, and bore a hole in the center of the bottom. In this hole insert a long pole and nail firmly. Now drive a row of small nails around the top edge, and it is ready for use. This will pick as well as one bought at a store, and costs nothing except the labor of making.

**Salt with Phosphate.**  
It is always a good plan to put some salt with phosphate drilled in with the seed grain. It keeps the mineral in soluble condition for the roots of the young grain to take hold of. It also increases the tendency to fermentation of vegetable or animal manures when used, as it must be, in small quantities. Large dressings of salt make the soil barren for one or two years until the rains have washed out the surplus above what is needed.

**Odors and Ends.**  
When the eyebrows and lashes are scant rub them every night with vaseline. To keep insects out of bird cages suspend from the top of the cage a little bag filled with sulphur. Always buy small nutmegs in preference to the large ones. They have a much more delicate flavor. Try a penny or large silver piece for readily removing paint from glass. Simply wet it and rub the paint.

Sift a little flour over suet when it is being chopped and it will prevent the pieces from adhering together. Don't forget to offer pure cold water to the baby occasionally. The milk is for food, and is not sufficient to quench the thirst of the little one. To make a cream soup yellow and rich the yolks of eggs are used. The eggs are first beaten thoroughly, and after the cream or milk has been added to the soup they are stirred in just before it is taken from the fire. A teaspoonful of borax put in the last water in which clothes are rinsed will whiten them surprisingly. Pound the borax so it will dissolve easily. This is especially good to remove the yellow that time gives to white garments that have been laid aside for two or three years.

**KILLED ON THE FARM.**  
A STARTLING RECORD OF TERRIBLE CASUALTIES.

Dangers Attending Life on a Farm Seem Greater than Those Surrounding Work on the Railroad or in a Powder Mill.

**Die in the Hayfield.**  
Fatalities, mishaps and odd incidents have always seemed to attend oddly the gathering of the hay crop, says a western New York correspondent of the New York Sun, but they seem to have been unusually numerous in their occurrence this season. Following is the record of the hayfield in this respect for but little more than a week in Chautauque and adjacent counties alone:

Russell Waterhouse, aged 77, a leading farmer of Arkwright, Chautauque County, was helping his son Thomas in the hayfield. They were loading hay. The elder Waterhouse stood on the top of the load, distributing the hay as his son pitched it up. A thunder storm was coming up, and this was the last to be hauled in. Suddenly a terrific clap of thunder broke so sharp and near that it frightened the horses. They sprang forward, jerking the wagon so that Farmer Waterhouse was thrown from the load to the ground. He struck on his head. His neck was broken and he died instantly. Farmer Thomas Reynolds needed help one day last week to gather a field of hay before it was damaged by a coming storm, on his farm at Sullivan, Pa. Some men were engaged on another part of his farm in a job of sawing with a portable sawmill. He sent his son to request the men to suspend their work at the mill and hasten down to help with the hay. One of the operators at the mill, Fred Holcomb, aged 21, in his hurry to respond to the call, stumbled and fell in front of

the saw. Before he could regain his feet or the bystanders could aid him he was cut to pieces by the saw, his head, an arm, and both legs being severed from his body. Two fatal accidents occurred on the Brush farm, near Darien Centre. John Schrader, the hired man, fell from a load of hay with his pitchfork in his hand. In some way he fell on the times, which passed entirely through his body. He lived but a short time. Before the news of this casualty reached the owner of the farm he was moving hay in his orchard with a moving machine. His 12-year-old son was near by. Farmer Brush called to him to come and hold up the low-hanging bough of a tree so he could drive under it. The boy held it up, but stood so close that as the machine passed him the knives on the cutting bar struck him, cutting off both his feet at the ankle. He died three hours later.

Bethel Rice, aged 9, was watching her brother, John, run a moving machine in a field near the house. John stopped the horses where she stood, dismounted from the machine, and told Bethel to hand him the wrench which lay near. The little girl got the wrench, and stepped up near the machine, getting between the cutting forks, and handed it to her brother. As he was reaching for it the horses started. The quickly-shifting knives caught the child and cut off both her legs near the knees.

At Bedford, Pa., on Thursday, Joseph Bell, aged 73, was at work in his hay field. Levi Shay was driving by and stopped to talk to Farmer Bell, who walked over to the fence. "Might better lay your hay rot down in the field," said Shay. "It won't bring \$3 a ton the way this country is being run." "Three dollars a ton!" exclaimed Farmer Bell, excitedly. "Why, that would drive us to the poorhouse." "Certainly it would, and it will," declared Shay.

Farmer Bell stood with a disturbed look on his face as what appeared to be a great fire of light and heat, and a great noise, was heard in the distance. He supposed Bell and fainting from effects of the heat, jumped from his wagon to help him, but the farmer was dead.

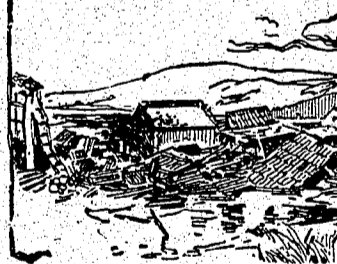
**Awful Work of Yellow Jackets.**  
George Ring, a hired man on the farm of William Smith, his father-in-law, near Alton, was riding a mowing machine one day last week, when one of the horses stepped in a yellow jacket's nest. Instantly the irritable occupants of the nest came out in a swarm and stung the horses, which frenzied with the pain of the poisonous stingers, ran away. Ring was thrown from his seat on the mower, and although he fortunately fell out of the way of the knives, he struck a spot where a patch of elder brush had been cut, at the edge of the field, leaving stiff, sharp butts standing. When other men working in the field hurried to his aid they found him impaled on the stubbles, one having been forced through the fleshy part of his left thigh and one through his right shoulder. One ear was torn from his head, his lower jaw was broken, and his body badly lacerated by the jagged elder stubble. The full extent of Ring's injuries was not known nor could he be extricated from his awful situation for ten minutes after the arrival of the men. A horde of yellow jackets which followed him as he was thrown from the machine, were stinging him fiercely on every bit of flesh exposed, and had to be fought away and killed before the men could rescue the unfortunate Ring, who was unconscious and uttering heart-rending cries of agony. His rescuers were terri-

My stung by the yellow jackets before they could get Ring away. He was carried to the farm house. It is thought that, notwithstanding his frightful injuries, he will recover. The frenzied horses, crazed by the stinging of the yellow jackets, dashed madly across the field and in among a group of young chestnut trees. There the mowing machine was smashed to pieces. Along the edge of the field opposite the one where Ring was thrown and ten feet below it runs Outer creek. The horses, freed from the machine, ran straight for that side of the field, and plunged down the steep bank into the creek. The water is wide and deep at that spot, and handicapped by their harness and being lashed together, both horses were drowned. It is probable that they would have had to be killed at any rate, for they had been blinded by the stinging of the yellow jackets, and their bodies were swollen to an immense size by the poison.

**VICTIMS OF THE SEA.**  
Thirty Thousand People Drowned by the Tidal Wave in Japan. Thirty thousand souls hurried to eternity; thirty thousand lives blotted out in five minutes; probably the same number of emaciated sufferers stalking hungry-eyed about the ruins of their former homes—that, briefly, is the story of the great wave that swept up from the sea and engulfed the coast of the island of Yezo, Japan. Following is the summary of the results of the disaster:

Awate—25,415 deaths, 1,244 wounded, 5,330 houses swept away or destroyed. Miyagi—2,557 deaths, 605 wounded, 683 houses swept away or destroyed. Aomori—346 deaths, 243 wounded, 454 houses swept away or destroyed. Totals—28,418 deaths, 1,892 wounded, 6,302 houses swept away or destroyed. Of various towns and villages that were visited by the calamity, Kamishii and Taro suffered most. In the former 4,700 out of 6,557 people were drowned,

while in the latter 2,655 out of 3,747 were killed. It was shortly before 8 o'clock on the night of Monday, June 15, that dwellers near the coast heard a strange sound that came out from the sea, swelling on the calm evening air. "The dreaded tsunami (sea wave) was not altogether new to some of those who were so soon to become its victims. But it is asserted that the people were exceedingly slow to realize the immensity of the danger that threatened them. "Bismarck" cried a terrified fisherman, and "Tsunami" passed the echoing wall swiftly from man to man until the silent fishing hamlets rang with the cry. Mad with terror that lent speed to their flying feet, the dwellers forsook their frail, thatched huts, and rushed for the bluffs topping the sleeping villages. Some of the first to flee gained places of safety, saw the phosphorescent waves clamor and toss timbers and human beings almost at their feet, and heard them usually retreat with their ghastly burden. Others caught by the sea and beaten most cruelly by the debris which it bore on its



SHIZUKAWA AFTER THE WAVE PASSED OVER IT.

crest were yet left behind when it withdrew. But by far the most were swallowed up and their poor bodies are now only being thrown back on land. The town of Kamishii, situated a few miles from the foot of the mountain, was almost wiped out, only a few houses standing on high ground behind the town being spared. In this town 4,700 persons, out of a total population of 6,557, lost their lives; 500 were injured; 1,080 out of 1,213 houses were destroyed. Taro was a village of 4,500 population. Three hundred persons escaped from the catastrophe. At this point the wave appears to have been most destructive; some of the survivors declare it to have been eighty feet high, and the marks left on the rising grounds show it to have been



of such a height that it is a marvel any human beings survive. The loss of life would have been greater, but for the fact that over a hundred of the Taro fishermen were at sea and knew naught of the disaster till they returned. Owing to the destruction of the telegraph lines along the coast it was not till late next morning that news of the catastrophe began to spread, and for three days it was all but impossible to afford official aid to the survivors.

Meanwhile the weather had grown warmer. Decomposition of the bodies had set in and it began to be a dreadful experience to venture in the vicinity of those spots where formerly there had been human habitations. But, worse than the actual scenes to which one could never become accustomed, in passing near the ruined houses was the spectacle of groups of swollen once-human forms rocking to and fro on the sea almost within reach of the shore, while on the beach itself other similar awful objects were rolled over and over in rows by each succeeding wave as it reached the strand. There can be no exaggeration of this frightful calamity or of the never-to-be-forgotten scenes that have followed and are yet coming in its wake. It has been found extremely difficult to secure laborers to assist in locating, recovering and decently interring the dead, and the gravest fears are entertained that disease will be bred by the presence of so many decaying bodies. It would be idle to discuss the causes of this extraordinary visitation. It may have originated in some tremendous volcanic outbreak far away in the Pacific ocean, or it may have been caused by a displacement of the ocean bed on the higher edge of the Tuscara Deep, which was discovered by Admiral Belknap in the Tuscara, and stretches a mighty abyss, five and one-third miles deep, off the Japan coast. Sea waves have invaded Japan before, but never have such disastrous results. It is well within the memory of those still alive that in 1854 the harbor of Shimoda was visited by three huge waves, which destroyed many lives and much shipping, leaving the Russian frigate Diana a total wreck. Moreover, in 1892, a small wave, which fortunately brought little destruction, was experienced in parts of the very regions that have now been devastated. The Emperor and Empress promptly gave 14,000 yen, to be devoted to the relief of the sufferers, and foreigners and Japanese are subscribing to funds started for a similar purpose.

**FULL BINS FOR FARMERS.**

Country's Corn Crop Promises to Equal that of Last Year. Information regarding the growing corn crop has been received at the Department of Agriculture in Washington. There is every indication now that the crop of the country will equal the enormous crop of last year, which was 2,151,130,000 bushels. This was the largest crop the United States has produced for many years. The crop of 1894 had only been 1,212,000,000 bushels, and it was but a trifle more in 1895 and 1896. In 1891 it reached beyond 2,000,000,000 bushels. The extent of the corn crop of the United States this year is about 1,000,000 acres less than it was last year. There it was 82,000,000 acres. In 1894 it was only 76,000,000. The average acreage in the principal corn States is reported as follows for the two years:

	1894.	1895.
Ohio.....	106	104
Michigan.....	106	106
Indiana.....	103	104
Illinois.....	111	108
Iowa.....	97	106
Missouri.....	99	107
Minnesota.....	108	117
Nebraska.....	102	107
Kansas.....	88	112
Texas.....	83	107
ennessee.....	87	102
Kentucky.....	87	102

The official method of the Government for communicating the state of growing crops to the public is to take a basis of 100 as a reasonable standard of excellence. Averages in excess are exceptionally good, and averages below 100 become less encouraging the lower they go. With this explanation the statements of the officials of the Agricultural Department become plain to those outside the board of Trade. The reports received justify the following estimates of the average condition of the crop in the leading corn States, which are given alongside the averages for July, 1895:

	1894.	1895.
Ohio.....	106	61
Michigan.....	106	61
Indiana.....	103	61
Illinois.....	111	61
Iowa.....	97	61
Missouri.....	99	61
Minnesota.....	108	61
Nebraska.....	102	61
Kansas.....	88	61
Texas.....	83	61
ennessee.....	87	61
Kentucky.....	87	61

The reports received by the department in a general way on all crops are encouraging. This ought to be a prosperous year for farmers in most sections of the country, unless some great calamity befalls the harvest. Generally poor condition of fruit throughout the country is announced in the agricultural report. Apples declined in condition from 71 to 64.8 during June. The peach crop promises to be of medium proportions. During the past month a fall of 12.9 points has taken place, leaving the general average now 51.8. Mrs. Louise Foltz, wife of Richard D. Foltz, committed suicide at Newcastle, Pa., by taking laudanum. Mr. Foltz then made a desperate attempt to kill himself, but was prevented. Mrs. Foltz was a sister of James J. Davidson, Republican candidate for Congress. Her brother married a daughter of Senator Quay. A rumor is current in railroad circles that Collis P. Huntington and the Southern Pacific people have a hand in the new government of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.



**Pie.**  
Boil one quart of water with one cupful of canned, fresh or dried apples, three-quarters of a pound of granulated sugar, until apples are soft, then stir into it three ounces (or five table-spoonfuls) of dissolved cornstarch; remove from the stove, and when cool add five to six eggs, one-half teaspoonful of salt, the juice of three lemons, two grated lemon peels, and one table-spoonful of butter; strain all through a colander and fill into pie dishes lined with plain pie crust. If you want French lemon pie, line flat pie dish with American puff paste, scallop the edge with your fingers or a knife, fill in the cream and lay four bars of the same paste over the top and four more crosswise over them.

**A Good Sandwich.**  
A good sandwich is made from rare roast beef chopped fine and well seasoned. This is improved by first spreading the bread with the following mixture: Add to half a cupful of Mayonnaise made very thick two tablespoonfuls of whipped cream, a dessert-spoonful of grated horseradish, and two spoonfuls of cucumber chopped very fine. After spreading the bread with a layer of this spread with the chopped beef. The bread should be thin and evenly spread. All sandwiches, except perhaps those made of very tender tongue, are nicer for having the meat used in them cut fine and seasoned.

**Table Decorations.**  
Small flowers with short stems may be made into beautiful table decorations by arranging them in a low, rather flat dish of glass or silver, with the top covered with chicken-wire. Cover the wire with fringed green of some kind so as to conceal the edges of the wire and dish, putting the stems through so that they reach the water beneath. Then arrange your violets, pansies, or other blossoms that look best in a mound in a solid mass, putting the stems through the meshes of the wire into the water.

**Setting a Young Orchard.**  
The most important point to observe when setting out a young orchard is to secure strong and healthy trees. Many fruit growers import diseases on their farms at the time of purchasing their young fruit stock. Trees one year old will often thrive better than those that are older, and they are also more easily examined. Every tree should be carefully inspected from the tips to the roots, and should be procured from nurseries known to be reliable.

**Farina or Indian Meal Pudding.**  
One-half pound of farina or meal, stirred into one quart of boiling milk and leave on fire until it thickens; set away to cool, stirring into it, when cold, one-half pound of sugar, yolks of four eggs, the grated rind of a lemon and the stiff froth of the whites of four eggs; then add one even teaspoonful of good sifted baking powder, and one-half nutmeg, grated. Mix in well and bake one-half hour—not too hot.

**Many Varieties of Beans.**  
A surprising thing to Northern visitors in the Georgia and Alabama exhibits at the Atlanta Fair was the variety and quantity of small beans, or, as they are called, peas, on exhibition and recommended for feeding purposes. And, from what was said of the values, both as food for stock and for the soil, it is questioned whether our Northern farmers are using the legumes for all they are worth.

**Nuts in the Lunch Basket.**  
Nuts, rather than sweets in the form of candy, are a good food to add to the lunch basket taken to school, especially if it is a lunch somewhat deficient in nutrition. Roasted peanuts are a valuable food, and may sometimes be used for the lunch-basket sandwich instead of meat. Powder the nuts and sometimes spread them with a little mayonnaise dressing.

**To Destroy Rats.**  
To destroy rats, cover the floor near their holes with a thin layer of most caustic potash. When the rats walk on this it makes their feet sore. These they lick with their tongues, which makes their mouths sore, and the result is they not only shun this locality, but it seems to prevent others coming, so that the house and neighborhood is entirely abandoned by them.

**Hints of All Sorts.**  
To freshen leather bags, seats, etc., rub them with the well-beaten white of an egg.

Stains on linen can be removed by rubbing them persistently with salt and lemon juice.

Flour should always be kept in a dry place by the fire before it is used for cakes or pastry.

When ironing, always wear old, loose kid gloves, and you will thus save many sore places on the hands.

Steel that is exposed to the weather may be kept from rust by having a thorough coating of copal varnish. Colored print dresses should be soaked in strong salt and water for an hour before washing, so as to set the colors. A very good fly paper is made in the following way: Take equal parts of boiled linseed oil and resin. Melt these together and add some turpentine. Soak some brown paper in a solution of alum, and dry before applying the above mixture.

**SOCIETY MEETINGS.**

**M. E. CHURCH.**—Rev. R. L. Cope, Pastor. Services at 10:30 o'clock a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday school at 12 m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend.

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**—Rev. A. H. Mosser, Pastor. Services every Sunday morning and evening at the usual hour. Sunday-school following morning service. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening.

**DANISH EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH.**—Rev. A. Hendry, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., and every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Sunday School at 2 p.m.

**METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.**—Rev. W. H. Mawhorter, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 7:30 p.m., and alternate Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Sunday-school at 2 p.m.

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.**—Father H. Wehler. Regular services the last Sunday in each month.

**GRAYLING LODGE, No. 385, F. & A. M.** meets in regular communication on Thursday evening on or before the full of the moon. A. TAYLOR, Secretary.

**MARVIN POST, No. 240, G. A. R.** meets the second and fourth Saturdays in each month. W. S. CHALKER, Post Com. J. J. COVETTES, Adjutant.

**WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS, No. 163.** meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. MRS. M. E. HANSON, President. REBECCA WIGG, Sec.

**GRAYLING CHAPTER, R. A. M., No. 123.** Meets every third Tuesday in each month. A. TAYLOR, Sec. W. F. DENKLEMAN, H. P.

**GRAYLING LODGE, I. O. O. F., No. 137.** Meets every Tuesday evening. J. PATTERSON, N. G. M. SIMPSON, Sec.

**CRAWFORD TENT, K. O. T. M., No. 102.** Meets every Saturday evening. MCKAY, Com. T. NOLAN, R. E.

**GRAYLING CHAPTER, ORDER OF EAST-STAR, No. 83.** meets Monday evening on or before the full of the moon. DE ETTE BRADEN, W. M. JESIE TAYLOR, Sec.

**COURT GRAYLING, I. O. F., No. 700.** Meets second and last Wednesday of each month. EBBELL, R. S. J. WOODBURN, G. R.

**GRAYLING HIVE, No. 84, L. O. L. T. M.** Meets every first and third Wednesday of each month. JULIETTE BRADEN, Lady Com. POLLY CROTEAU, Record Keeper.

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# THE GOLD STANDARD.

## SOME ARGUMENTS WHICH SHOW ITS BENEFITS.

Free Silver Is Opposed to the Best Interests of the Debtor Classes—Increases Interest Rates on Monetary Contracts—What "Flat" Means.

**Free Silver a Curse.**  
A writer in a recent number of the Bond Record, discussing the financial question, brings out the following points as tending to show, "that free silver is opposed to the best interests of the debtor class itself." Among other things he says:

"It is a striking fact that during the last twenty years, that is, during the 'appreciation of gold,' the rate of interest has been exceedingly low in all the gold standard countries. Doubtless some of the decrease would have occurred if the standard had been silver instead of gold. But some of it would not."

This may be made perfectly clear by examining the two standards where they meet in the London money market. The Government bonds of India are of two kinds. One, known as "rupee paper," is expressed and payable in silver or by draft on India, while the other, usually called "India stock," is expressed and payable in gold. The average yearly rates realized by investors in the two sorts of bonds have been computed from their prices as recorded in the Economist. Some of the results are given in the following table:

	Exchange	Gold	Silver	Diff.	per cent
1865.....	1.3	4.0	2.2	1.8	23.6
1870.....	1.3	4.0	2.2	1.8	23.6
1875.....	1.3	3.9	2.1	1.8	23.6
1880.....	1.3	3.8	2.0	1.8	23.6
1885.....	1.3	3.7	1.9	1.8	23.6
1890.....	1.3	3.6	1.8	1.8	23.6
1895.....	1.3	3.5	1.7	1.8	23.6
1900.....	1.3	3.4	1.6	1.8	23.6
1905.....	1.3	3.3	1.5	1.8	23.6
1910.....	1.3	3.2	1.4	1.8	23.6
1915.....	1.3	3.1	1.3	1.8	23.6
1920.....	1.3	3.0	1.2	1.8	23.6
1925.....	1.3	2.9	1.1	1.8	23.6
1930.....	1.3	2.8	1.0	1.8	23.6

It will be seen that the rates realized in the two standards differed but slightly until 1875, when the fall of exchange began. Before 1875 they differed on the average by 2 per cent on the principal, while the average difference beginning in 1875 was 7 per cent. From 1883 the exchange fell more rapidly, and the difference in the two interest rates rose further, amounting in one year to 1.1 per cent. The two bonds are issued by the same government, possess the same degree of security, and are quoted side by side on the London market. The difference in the two rates means that investors will pay higher relative prices for gold bonds than for silver bonds, whose principal shows a tendency to depreciate. If we in America should adopt the silver standard our bonds held in London would be treated in precisely the same way.

In our own country special emphasis may be given to the period 1873-79, during which time resumption of specie payments was being accomplished and prices were falling with great rapidity. The rate of interest in New York was then lower, not only than before 1873, but even than after 1879 in spite of the steady inflow of foreign and growth of native capital.

In short, all the facts go to show that the rate of interest tends to adjust itself to the appreciation or depreciation of the monetary standard in such a manner as to correct in large measure those gains or losses to the contracting parties, which would otherwise arise from variations in the purchasing power of money.

To see the influence of changes in the purchasing power of money we suppose a one-year debt contracted and paid within the period of 1875-91. For every \$1,000 the borrower repaid at the end of the year \$1,052, but owing to the fall of prices during the year, if the \$1,000 at the beginning would buy 1,000 units of (wholesale) commodities, the \$1,052 at the end would buy 1,073 units. In 1849-57, for \$1,000 he returned a year later \$1,082, which, owing to the rise in prices, was as if for 1,000 units of commodities he had paid back 1,041 units. This would look as if the borrowers' lot were harder during recent years than before the war, in spite of the reduced interest. That would be the case if the cost of producing commodities had not changed. The borrower in the period 75-91, for a loan worth 1,000 days' labor, had to pay back a year later the equivalent of 1,043 days' labor, while a borrower in the period 49-57, for 1,000 days' labor paid back 1,070 days' labor; that is, the debtor during the period 75-91 repaid his loan with less of human effort than in the earlier period.

The main point, however, is yet to be mentioned. The full benefit of the gold standard in reducing interest is not enjoyed by the American debtor for the simple reason that he allows that standard to be in debate. The silver agitation has become a most powerful agent in raising the rate of interest against him. No one need be reminded that our government was recently offered a loan of \$50 millions at 3 per cent, if gold were expressly stipulated, but at 3 3/4 per cent. If the repayment were promised "in coin," Congress refused to make the bonds payable in gold, and by so doing added 15 millions in interest to our national debt. This is but a sample of the manner in which the would-be champions of the oppressed debtor are doing everything in their power to add to his burdens. The city of Cincinnati more recently furnished a similar example in funding a loan. In fact, it was well known that municipal bonds not specifically payable in gold can be disposed of only on terms disadvantageous to the city. The very existence of the gold clause is proof positive that investors are willing to pay something for it. If Congress should pass a law committing this nation to a gold standard they would at one stroke cut down the interest on new contracts of all kinds. No means of helping the debtor class could be surer or more speedy than this.

**Gold Clause Becoming Popular.**  
There were two interviews printed in the News yesterday which ought to set people thinking. It was shown in one of the interviews that the banks are already beginning to call in their paper, even paper which at other times they would have been glad to renew.

This tendency on the part of lenders of money will grow stronger as the situation grows more uncertain. Men who lend money on a gold basis will take no chances of being repaid in cheap silver. This is shown by the practice of the building associations, as described in the other interview. The secretary of one of these associations said yesterday that there had been hardly a building association mortgage made in the past three years which did not contain a gold clause. We quote his words:

"I do not believe it is generally known that nearly every building and loan association in this city and in the State, I suppose, has put in every mortgage it has taken for the last three years a clause to the effect that the loan shall be paid in gold, if demanded by the association. The association of which I am secretary has out \$470,000, and that clause is in every mortgage."—Indianapolis News, June 11.

**Silver and the Poor Man.**  
Every crank who ventures to propose free silver seems to think that the poor man is his most promising game. The doctrine he presents is that more money is needed that the poor man may have plenty. He does not say how the poor man is to get any more money, which is the important thing, nor that a cheap money is the one thing the poor man can stand less able than the rich man. The poor man, the workman, or the farmer, are served only when they have the best money obtainable. Suppose for a moment that free silver should drive the gold dollar out of circulation. The first effect is on the poor man. When he receives his weekly wages it is paid in the cheap money. He is the last loser. He can buy less with it than with the higher priced money, of course. If he happens to be earning \$12 a week and the dollars are cut down from a gold basis to a silver basis he will get twelve dollars, worth possibly 70 cents each, or \$8.40, instead of the value that prevails when the gold standard is accepted. With cheap money prices will go up. What he buys he will have to pay more for. Manufacturers are not going to produce their wares and sell them for the same number of dollars when the dollars are worth less money. The poor man will catch it in both directions.

Cheap money disarranges all business relations. There is no such thing as one standard for one class and another for another class. The talk of the debtor's money and the creditor's money is bunko. Every man is debtor and creditor all the time. The workman is the creditor while he is earning his wages, until he is paid. He is a debtor for the few things he buys without paying for when he gets them. As he pays cash for much of what he buys, and allows all his wages to stand until the end of the week or month, he is a creditor more than he is a debtor. The cheap money, which is to benefit the debtor, would benefit the employer who owes him wages, and who pays the wages in the depreciated coin.

There is but one standard desirable, and that is the best dollar that can be made. The standard is now fixed at a trifle more than 22 grains of pure gold. The aim of the country is to keep all other dollars, gold, silver, or paper, up to that standard and not debase or cheapen any of them.—Pittsburg Times.

**Some Safe Bets.**  
"Silver is now worth about 69 cents an ounce. The silver bullion in a dollar is worth about 54 cents. Free silver coinage would raise the price of silver to 120 cents an ounce, and the silver in an American dollar would be worth \$1 in gold the world over even without a government stamp on it."—Ex-Congressman R. P. Bland, in New York World of July 1, 1896.

If you have a neighbor who thinks Bland is a great statesman, and who is willing to back his opinion with money, and who would have anything to lose after going through the free coinage cyclone, here are some of the perfectly safe bets you can make him:

First—That free coinage would not in one year raise the price of silver to \$1 per ounce. (You can bet on any number of years, but would have to wait longer before the bet could be settled.)

Second—That the price of silver will be lower one year after than one year before the passage of a free coinage act.

Third—That the price of silver will be less than 90 cents per ounce when a free coinage act has been in effect six months or one year.

Fourth—That at no time within one year after free coinage at 16 to 1 has become a law will an American silver dollar be worth as much as 75 per cent of the value of an American gold dollar.

If you cannot get even gets, give odds. The price of silver is determined mainly by the cost of production. All the silver the world can use can be produced at less than 75 and probably less than 70 cents per ounce. No legislation can raise, except for a short time, the price of silver. It is to be hoped that we will never be forced to make this foolish free coinage experiment, but if we do we should, if we can find takers, recoup some of our certain losses by betting on the inevitable.

**What "Flat" Means.**  
"Why must we go to some other language for a word about our currency? What does 'flat' or 'flat money' mean?" ask three students of the money question.

"Flat lux"—"let there be light"—became familiar to the Christian world through the Latin vulgar version of the Old Testament.

Omnipotence was able to make light out of darkness or out of nothing by a wish.

But where men take a substance which is not money and say "flat money"—"let there be money"—the miracle will not follow.

"Anything not intrinsically money, like paper, but issued by government and made legal tender, is 'flat money,' so called in satire."

Silver is "flat money" in the proportion represented by the difference between its intrinsic value—the fluctuating price of the pure metal in the coin—and its legal tender value fixed by law.

The true "flatist" would have paper money irredeemable and in unlimited quantity and silver coined without limit and irredeemable in gold. Mad as such a proposal is it has sometimes been tried, always with the same result.—Chicago Times-Herald.



Chicago Tribune.

## ORDER AGAINST ANARCHY.

**THEIR** delirium is ended. The howling horde of fanatics, demagogues and anarchists at Chicago have looted the Democratic party, rioted in the spoil, raised their abhorrent platform, put their ridiculous candidates on it and gone home. They have made the issue clear for an astounding nation. It is order against anarchy, government against the mob. The great Republican principles of sound money and protection are in no way dimmed or set aside. They will dominate the coming fight, and the mighty hosts of Republicanism will go forth to fight for them under the leadership of McKinley and Hobart, enthusiastic and confident of victory as only a great, united army battling for the right can be.

But growing out of those principles, and made clear and distinct and vivid before the eyes of the whole country by the brazen assault of the Chicago rabble on the nation's integrity and on the very foundations of all law and order, there has come the supreme, crystallized issue on which all patriotic citizens can and must unite—order against anarchy.

Honorable Democrats and their newspapers see this and are rushing to the standard of McKinley and Hobart by the thousand. There is no other course for men who place country above party to take. They realize that the foe is a common one and must be crushed, annihilated absolutely, utterly. Democrats who are also patriots will vote for McKinley and Hobart by tens of thousands.

Republicans, confident before that their leaders, McKinley and Hobart, under the standards of sound money and protection, would go forth to a splendid, overwhelming victory, will take new heart for the fight. Welcoming all patriotic allies who wish to join them in the battle against the common enemy, they will march forward relentlessly to make the victory of order over anarchy certain and complete in this nation for all time. The lines are drawn, the issue is clear, and the fight should begin now.—New York Press.

## Prices for Farmers.

The following prices, taken from Clapp's Circular of New York, for this month, represent the difference between a Democratic administration, with confidence unsettled as in 1894, as against those when confidence was established in 1892, under protection:

	1892.	1894.	Price.
Butter, creamery, lb.	10.15	8.00	20.30
Beans, N. Y., bu.	1.05	1.95	
Barley, N. Y., bu.	.26	.54	
Buckwheat, Chicago ..	.85	1.45	
Corn, N. Y., bu.	.20	.41	
Cotton, mid., N. Y., ..	.074	.074	
Cotton cloth, 6-4s, F. R.	.02	7-10	.039
Cattle, Chicago, Jan. 1 ..	3.55	4.00	
Coal, per ton, N. Y., net.	11.70	11.75	
Copper, lb., N. Y., etc.	.063	.0634	
Cheese, N. Y., Ex. ....	.1124	.113	
Eggs, N. Y., ..	.11	.10	
Flour, N. Y., ..	2.25	4.20	
Hogs, live, Chicago ..	3.15	5.30	
Horse, S. S., Jan. 1 ..	33.00	65.00	
Hops, N. Y., lbs. ....	.07	.24	
Hay, Chicago, ton ..	8.00	10.00	
Iron, Besse, pig, Pitts. ..	12.25	14.00	
Lard, Chicago, 100 lbs. ..	3.90	6.90	
Lead, lb., etc. ....	3.05	4.12	
Oats, N. Y., Chicago ..	.15	.334	
Pork, mess, Chicago ..	0.15	11.37	
Potatoes, Chicago ..	.10	.67	
Peas, dried, N. Y., ..	.72	1.62	
Rye, N. Y., Chicago ..	.31	.70	
Rice ..	.044	.05	
Silver, N. Y., ..	.0924	.884	
Steel rails ..	28.00	30.00	
Stocks, N. Y., Pitts. ..	18.50	22.07	
Flax, Chicago ..	.79	1.05	
Sugar, granulated, N. Y.	.044	47-10	
Stearine, lard, N. Y., ..	4.75	7.75	
Sheep, Chicago ..	3.00	4.50	
Short ribs, Chicago ..	3.65	7.30	
Tobacco, leaf ..	8.5	9.00	
Tallow, N. Y., ..	.134	.22	
Wool, average ..	.174	.22	
Wheat, red, No. 2, N. Y.	.61	.89	
Wheat, No. 2 spg., Chi.	.55	.79	

## Railroad Progress Checked.

The records of the new railroad building in the United States in 1896, according to the Railroad Gazette, show that 747 miles of road have been built in the first half of the year. The total is not very different from the amount of new railroad which has been constructed in the first half of any year since the Democratic administration in 1893 called a halt to progress and prosperity. Last year 622 miles of new road were built up to July 1, and the record in 1894, only 495 miles between Jan. 1 and July 1, showed how decisively extension work had been stopped. Figures as to the new track built in the first half of the year for seven years past make some interesting comparisons:

	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
717	620	495	1,025	1,284	1,794	2,035	

It will be seen how greatly railroad extension has been checked by the conditions of the past few years, and there are no substantial signs that any large relative increase is to be expected in the near future. Only with the restoration of protection and prosperity can we look for a return of the expansion of our railroad system such as occurred in the early years of the present decade.

**What Agriculturists Want.**  
What the agriculturist of this country wants more than anything else, after he has gathered his crop, are consumers—consumers at home, men who

do not produce what they eat, but must purchase all they consume; men who are engaged in manufacturing, in mining, in cotton spinning, in the potteries, and in the thousands of productive industries which command all their time and energy, and whose employments do not admit of their producing their own food. The American agriculturist further wants these consumers near and convenient to his field of supply. Cheap as inland transportation is, every mile saved is money made. Every manufacturing establishment in the United States, wherever situated, is of priceless value to the farmers of the country.—Hon. William McKinley.

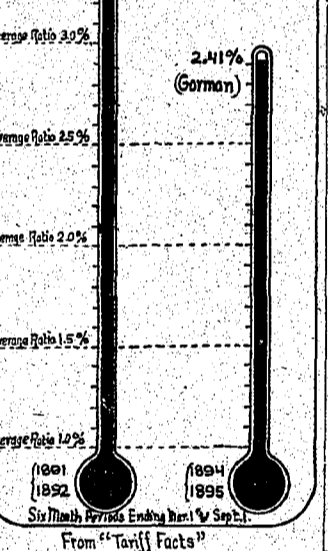
## True American Policy.

We denounce the present Democratic tariff as sectional, partisan and one-sided, one disastrous to the Treasury and destructive of business enterprise, and we demand such an equitable tariff on foreign imports which come in competition with American products as will not only furnish adequate revenue for the necessary expenses of the Government, but will protect American labor from the degradation and the wage level of other lands. We are not pledged to any particular schedules. The question of rates is a practical question, to be governed by the conditions of time and production. The ruling and uncompromising principle is the protection and development of American labor and industry. The country wants a right settlement and then it wants rest—Republican platform of 1896.

## Losses of Bankers.

**3.97% (McKinley)**  
**2.41% (Cobden)**

National Bank Earnings (Ratio to Capital and Surplus)  
When the demand for money to be used in production is small—as since 1892—the banking fund of the country earns small ratios.



## 'Twill Be a Day of Miracles.

"When William Jennings Bryan is elected President of this great agricultural country," says a Democratic exchange, "we shall see three blades of grass growing where one grew before." We shall. And we shall also see the sun rising in the West, rivers running up stream, and old maids telling their ages. The day of miracles will be with us again when Bryan is elected President.

**Franklin's Opinion.**  
Every manufacture encouraged in our own country makes a home market, and saves so much money to the country that must otherwise be exported.—Dr. Benjamin Franklin.

**Only Cause for Dissatisfaction.**  
The only unsatisfactory feature of the Democratic defeat this fall is the fact that Cleveland will not be as closely identified with it as the country would like. The people want to tell

Grover what they think of him, and in such a way that their meaning cannot be mistaken.

**Interest-Bearing Debt.**  
July 1, 1894.....\$847,903,800  
March 1, 1895.....585,084,200

**Increase under Democratic administration.....** 262,820,600  
Harrison decrease in four years, 1890-1893..... 244,519,730  
Cleveland increase in three years, 1893-1896..... 262,820,600  
Republican monthly decrease of debt, 1895-1896..... 5,701,114.77  
Democratic monthly increase of debt, 1893-1896..... 6,558,240.75

## McKinley vs. Cobden.

The name of McKinley means more in England than that of any other American. It is a name like that of Cobden. It sums up the economic experience and principles of America. It characterizes a national reaction against Clevelandism and a lower tariff, which have been fraught with disappointment and disaster.—London correspondence of the New York Tribune.

## Political Potpourri.

The McKinley button fits every American coat as if it were made for it.

"What I want is to see idle men at work at American wages," says McKinley, and so do we all of us.

We do not need more money so much as more circulation of the money we have.

Calling free silver "Populism" will not catch Populist votes for a mossback Democrat.

The Chicago convention was a menagerie of dark horses and large gray jackasses.

Make up your mind to vote for protection and prosperity, and the rest of the campaign won't bother you much.

Don't forget that this is to be a campaign for home industry and that the welfare of every home is concerned in it.

Every intelligent man knows that work and wages is the chief issue of the campaign, and all of them will vote that way.

For thirty years the Democratic party has been coddling the solid South. Now the solid South has wrecked the party.

It would be a misnomer to call the Chicago platform a declaration of principles. It is a declaration of lack of principle.

It is very doubtful if President Cleveland's contribution to the Democratic campaign fund this year will much exceed \$250.

You can count on better times after the election, so you may as well take a good holiday this summer and get ready for business.

Candidate Bryan is the most radical of free-traders. When in Congress he made the effort of his life to that time in a speech favoring free wool.

There is no more disgusting driveling than that of candidate Bryan to the effect that "suffering humanity should not be crucified on a cross of gold."

Those people who are clamoring for cheap dollars should go to Russia, Argentina and Japan, where dollars are cheap and men are much cheaper.

"The Populist party is in no sense a party," says J. R. Burton. What Mr. Burton probably means is that the Populist party is a party without sense.

The surest way to put money in circulation, to increase employment and start business is to repudiate with emphasis the work of the Chicago convention.

Senator Peffer rightly says that "the Republican party is now the most formidable political body on earth." A party with the American people behind it couldn't be otherwise.

"If everything is mortgaged from farms to sewing machines," as Altgeld says, the mortgaging has taken place since he failed to carry the country for Cleveland in November, 1892.

## JOHN BULL COMBINES BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE.



Miss Democracy is so delighted with having been captured by a man, that she fails to watch the movement of his right hand.

# GOWNS AND GOWNING

## WOMEN GIVE MUCH ATTENTION TO WHAT THEY WEAR.

Brief Glances at Fanciful Feminine, Frivolous, Mayhap, and Yet Offered in the Hope that the Reading Public Restful to Wearied Womanhood.

Gossip from Gay Gotham.

New York correspondence.



Usher wardrobe can contain no more useful item than a white mohair skirt. It will go with anything, and it will make a dressy or an informal appearance, according to what you wear it with, much more gracefully than will the highly praised black skirt. The black skirt is always distinctly itself, but the white skirt makes itself part of the bodice worn with it.

With a white sweater—a most useful thing, by the way—the skirt serves very prettily for morning or boating use, and with a dainty low-cut white bodice, behold! you have an evening rig. With a stiff shirt and a little white coat of any kind, you have another effect. You will notice the wisdom of a supply of white combinations. Only on the soggy rainy day does white seem out of place in the summer, and she who makes a point of being in white as much as possible can make her summer show on really very little.

Two uses of the white mohair skirt are shown in to-day's first two illustrations. Beside the initial the skirt is plain, and the bodice is sparsely



WHITE SOFTENED WITH LAVENDER.

gled as indicated. At the top comes a yoke of white silk honeycomb, and a few white silk frills top the tight mohair sleeves. A frill of silk extends on to the hand, and white satin ribbon and bows ornament wrists and waist. The second model is like the first, in that its white mohair skirt is plain, but the bodice is more dressy, even if its sleeves are not as striking as the others. It is made from white silk, striped and figured with lavender, and is furnished with a plain front that droops slightly. Its sides are of plain white silk, garnished with shirring and narrow lace frills; this is used, too, for the sleeve caps, and the lower puff and cuff are of the figured and striped stuff. Belt and collar are from lavender silk.

These two pictures show how widely different the bodices may be with which a white mohair skirt is worn, but they are only a beginning to the subject. Here are further suggestions for planning white combinations. Let the white mohair skirt be made just escaping the ground all the way around and plain with white velvet binding at the edge. Have two white duck skirts made in the same way, all except the binding, one stunning white duck coat, and, if you like, a white duck waistcoat, so that you can accomplish a white duck rig with the addition of a duck cap. A thin duck skirt made short will permit waistcoat and coat to serve as part of a wheel suit. Then there should be a white corduroy shooting jacket that can be worn open in front or closed, as preferred, a white Japanese silk bodice, made with high close collar and bagged front, the back cut to a slight point and the hips finished with a little roll, which is the kind of waist line finish that adapts a bodice to wear with

that will serve with the muslin. Besides, you can make the satin bodice of the half open kind, that will wear over the white lawn if economy is advisable. The satin bodice can thus be reduced to hardly more than a high bodice belt, with some accessory arrangement for the neck and shoulders, the muslin being planned with a yoke effect that can be removed when the bodice is put to low-neck use in combination with the satin. A white flannel yachting suit is charming, but you can make it a corduroy, and adapt the corduroy bodice to such use, instead of making a shooting jacket of it. An advantage of a white wardrobe that is

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# The Avalanche.

J. C. HANSON, LOCAL EDITOR

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1896.

## LOCAL ITEMS.

John Stephan, of Grove, was in town, last Friday.

For Doors, Sash, Glass and Putty see Albert Kraus.

L. Fournier went to Detroit last Friday, and returned on Tuesday.

Great Lace Sale, this week and next, at Claggett's.

The Township of Ball was not represented at the County Convention.

Do not miss the Lace Sale at the store of S. H. Co.

Mrs. E. D. Abbott, of Alba, was the guest of Mrs. M. Cole, last week.

Buy your Evaporated and Canned Fruits, at Bates & Co's.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder Most Perfect Made.

Miss Cecil and Doris Carney are visiting with their cousins, at Bay City.

500 pounds of 35 cent Japan Tea to be sold for 25 cents, at Claggett's.

T. Soderquist has repainted his hotel, adding greatly to its appearance.

Try "Our Favorite" Coffee, only 20 cents, and hard to beat, at Claggett's.

Miss Jennie Ingley is spending her vacation in Detroit and Fort Huron.

Miss Frances Staley is enjoying the visit of a cousin, Miss Lizzie McLean, of Cass City.

The best place in Grayling to buy Hay, Grain and Feed, is at Bates & Co's. Prices guaranteed.

Mrs. H. E. Hiltner, of Bay City, is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. T. A. Carney.

The New Woman corset beats them all. It is the best 50 cent Corset on each. Sold by S. S. Claggett.

The M. C. R. R. pay car made glad the hearts of the men last week, as it distributed duets.

Bates & Co. are offering the choicest Teas and the best Coffees, in town.

Mrs. Geo. Lavigne returned from a three weeks visit with her parents, in Bay City, last Saturday.

Upper Crust people use Upper Crust Flour, because it is the best. Try it. For sale at Claggett's.

Sheriff W. S. Chaiker was in Center Plains township Sunday looking up evidence in a criminal assault case.

The largest line of Outing Flannels ever shown in Northern Michigan, at Claggett's.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Fournier have the pleasure of entertaining his sister, Miss Fournier, of Detroit, this week.

J. Staley went to Bay View last Saturday, for a visit over Sunday, with his family.

Comrade F. L. Robbins, of Roscommon, was in town one day last week.

Frank Gleason returned last week and is now directing the culinary department of the Grayling House.

"Poor Relation" at the Court House next Wednesday evening. Admission 35 and 25 cents.

Mr. and Mrs. Elckhoff visited with the family of W. Batterson, near Frederic, last Tuesday week.

All standing advertisement for the AVAVALANCHE must be in the office as early as Tuesday of the week of issue.

Grand Opening of Printed Effects, at Claggett's. The newest, the latest, the prettiest and the best. Don't fail to see them.

Mrs. C. Elckhoff went to Cheboygan last Wednesday, for a visit with her daughter and family.

F. R. Deckrow is figuring on a windmill and system of stock tanks and water works, on Michelsons' big farm.

All Linen Lace, from 1 to 4 inches wide, goes for a short time, at 5 cents per yard, at the store of S. H. & Co.

A big fire at Cheboygan, last Saturday, destroyed a dock and lumber to the amount of \$100,000. Lumber was fully insured.

Our Teas and Coffees are winners; so is our Refined Lard, and when you want good goods and low prices, go to Claggett's.

Don't fail to take your poor relations to see the play entitled "Poor Relation," at the Court House, next Wednesday evening.

Mrs. J. E. McKnight had the pleasure of entertaining Mrs. Brown and son, wife of Conductor Brown, during the past week.

Beaver Creek was given a very heavy rain the beginning of the week, making the hearts of the farmers to rejoice.

The rite of Baptism was administered to Miss Ada Marvin, by immersion, last Sunday, by Rev. E. L. Cope.

Er. Bell started for Negaunee, this morning, for a visit with Frank and family.

"Poor Relation," at the Court House, next Wednesday evening, benefit of W. R. C. Reserved seats for sale at Fournier's drug store.

Dr. W. H. Niles brought in some gooseberry branches so loaded with fruit that a microscope could not find a place to attach another berry.

Detroit White Lead Works Sign and House Paints are the best; every gallon warranted. For sale by Albert Kraus.

Professional and amateur talent in "Poor Relation," at the Court House, next Wednesday evening. Admission 25 and 35 cents.

Use Boydell's Prepared Paints, they are the best in quality and cheapest in price. Every gallon warranted. For sale at Fournier's Drug Store.

All subscribers of the AVAVALANCHE can get the Chicago Daily Tribune, until after the Presidential election, for \$1.50.

J. E. McKnight and Conductor Brown of the M. C. R. R. went down the river on a fishing excursion, Tuesday morning.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder World's Fair Highest Medal and Diploma.

A young child of Mr. and Mrs. B. Peter Johnson, died, very suddenly, Monday afternoon, and was buried on Wednesday afternoon.

The Misses Salling, Lillian and Jennie, daughters of E. N. Salling, of Manistee, are the guests of Mrs. N. P. Salling, and other friends, this week.

Farmers bring your produce to Salling, Hanson & Co. They pay you the highest price, and sell you goods at Rock Bottom Prices.

The rite of Baptism, by sprinkling, was administered to several persons at the M. E. Church, and several taken into full membership, last Sunday evening.

The Lutheran minister is teaching a class of children to read and write the Danish language correctly. Two days each week is given to the school, and he has a large class.

If the care of the hair were made a part of a lady's education, we should not see so many gray heads, and the use of Hall's Hair Renewer would not be necessary.

In case of fires hereafter, after the alarm is blown, one whistle will be given if the fire is on the South side, and two if it is on the North side of the river. It will be well to remember this.

The Detroit Journal of Tuesday, gives a fair cut of our esteemed fellow citizen, R. Hanson, who is an elector on the republican ticket, and whose vote will be counted for McKinley and Hobart.

Just received 4000 yards all Linen Lace, 1 to 4 inches wide, which we will sell for a short time at 5 cents per yard. Don't allow this chance to go by. Salling, Hanson & Co.

D. M. Kneeland and family arrived here last Thursday evening en route home from Milwaukee, where they enjoyed a pleasant visit. Their friends here were glad to greet them even for a short stay.

Archie Howse, of Maple Forest, will start his steam thrasher next Monday, coming through that town into Blaine, and then here. Farmers on the route should be ready, so as to clean all up on one trip.

S. S. Claggett has just received the largest line of Shoes ever shown in Northern Michigan. His stock is now complete, and his prices ready to beat. If Shoes you want to fit your feet, then go to Claggett's.

S. E. Odell will do Photograph work at the Gallery opposite Court House, for a period of three weeks. All who want any work in his line will please call and you will receive fair treatment and will secure satisfactory work.

If the person that took the tea kettle, lantern, pail and dipper away from the W. R. C. hall does not return them, their name will be made known to the public.

RENECOA WRIGHT, Sec.

A small fire in the sawdust in the fire room of the band mill, Sunday night, caused an alarm to be turned in which called out the town. The response was prompt, and what came near being a costly blaze was escaped without loss.

One of the most severe rain, wind and electric storms of the year passed over the central and southern part of the state Sunday, doing immense damage to orchards, fences and buildings. We would like some of the rain without the accompaniments.

Last Saturday was the anniversary of the fourth birthday of Edna Groullef, and about 20 of her playmates were invited to assist her in properly celebrating it. The time was passed in blowing bubbles, as each one was supplied with a pipe, and all enjoyed it, as children can.

Local candidates are beginning to be mentioned, and it is understood that Wm. Woodburn will be in the field for re-nomination, which he ought to receive by acclamation, if able and honest conduct of the office for this term, and the usage of the party in giving a second term to competent men counts for anything.

Mr. and Mrs. Briggs, professionals, with the assistance of Grayling Amateurs, will give an entertainment on Wednesday evening of next week, at the Court House, at which they will present one of Sol. Smith Russell's plays, "The Poor Relation," for the benefit of the W. R. C. Admission 35 and 25 cents.

The Grayling Ball Club returned from their trip to St. Ignace and other points, last Monday. The game at Cheboygan was one of the most spirited and liveliest that the club ever engaged in, but lost to them by an error, the score standing 12 to 14. The game at St. Ignace was a good one and was won on a score of 5 to 14 in favor of Grayling.

The Republican Caucus, last Friday evening was numerously attended. The strength displayed by the party was much greater than the most sanguine member of it expected. The accessions of former democrats, populists and prohibitionists presages the greatest victory the party ever achieved in this county. It was run by bolters, and late accessions to the population, and old stand-bys who never knew any other party or scratched a ticket were given the marble heart. If the same interest is displayed and their zealous endeavors to promote the welfare of the republican candidates (?) does not die away before the first of Nov., the republican ticket will be elected by larger majorities than any candidates ever had in this county. But will their wind hold out?

Seldom is so much delightful fiction presented in a single issue of a magazine as is invitingly arrayed in the short-story issue (August) of THE LADIES HOME JOURNAL. Of Mr. Harte's story, his latest and best, "The Indiscretion of Elsiebeth," it is enough to say that it is in the authors characteristic vein, while the others present the happiest efforts of their writers. In a practical vein are articles by ex-President Harrison, Rev. Charles H. Parkhurst, D. D., and department editors. Dr. Parkhurst has for a theme "Selecting a Career," and gives wise and emphatic counsel to young men. The midsummer Journal covers a wide range of topics, and is exceptionally attractive. By the Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia; one dollar a year; ten cents a copy.

## Annual Reunion.

The Sixteenth Annual Reunion of the Soldiers and Sailors of Northern Michigan will be held in Grayling, on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 25th and 26th. A cordial invitation is extended to all ex-soldiers and sailors to attend. Army fare will be furnished.

An invitation is also given the wives of all Soldiers and Sailors, and members of the W. R. C. to attend. Marvin W. R. C. extends to them their well known hospitality. All who propose attending should notify the Secretary of the Corps, Mrs. S. C. Wright, of their intention.

J. C. HANSON, Sec.

Papers in the district, please copy.

## The Hoo Hoo's.

Vicegerent Snark Martin of the great concatenated order of Hoo Hoo with five assistants, arrived in the city on Monday, and Tuesday evening these gentlemen initiated a class of 34 into the mysteries and secrets of Hoo-Hoo land. Only lumbermen and kindred professions, railway officials and newspaper men are eligible to membership in the order. The class was composed of our leading lumbermen, together with several from Oscoda and other nearby towns, and one lone newspaper man. This was the largest class ever initiated in Michigan, and Alpena is therefore the banner Hoo Hoo town in the state in regard to members.

After the solemn rites, blood curdling obligations and tortures of the initiation, a fine banquet was served at The Churchill.—Alpena Pioneer.

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair, 'DR' **PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER** MOST PERFECT MADE. A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant. 40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

W. B. FLYNN, Dentist, WEST BRANCH, MICH.

Will make regular trips to Grayling the 10th of each month, remaining for three days. Office with Dr. Insley

## Republican County Convention.

The Convention was called to order by R. D. Connine, Chairman of Committee, who read the call, and appointed F. E. Wolfe temporary chairman.

Dr. Wolfe assumed the position without the usual speech of "thanks for the honor," &c., and without waiting for a motion, or any expressed wish of the convention appointed Rev. B. L. Cope Secretary, and the usual committees as per prearranged programme. The temporary organization was made permanent, and the following resolutions, reported by the committee on permanent organization, were adopted:

RESOLVED—That the Republicans of Crawford County, in convention assembled hereby endorse the policy of Protection, Reciprocity and sound money as set forth in the National Platform adopted by the Republican party at St. Louis.

We recognize in our able candidate for President, Wm. McKinley, of Ohio, the noblest product of American citizenship, a leader, a statesman whose success means the starting of great industries and the hum of mills long since made silent by "tariff reform."

Recognizing that the laborer is worthy of his hire and that as the great wealth producer of the nation, his success means our prosperity, we sadly deplore the present policy of "tariff for revenue only" under our first millionaire President, which depleted the Treasury, compelled the issuing of bonds in time of peace to sustain our credit, threw out of employment six millions of laborers, added \$515,084,753 to our public debt, as well as entailing untold sufferings upon the most worthy citizens of our great republic.

We are opposed to corporate greed, and believe that trusts and combinations to defraud the people should be suppressed, and that rail roads and rich corporations should be compelled by wise legislation to pay a fair share of the expenses of the government.

We hereby declare that we are not in sympathy with mob rule or anarchy as promulgated at Chicago, and believe that the government has full power, if need be, to suppress all mobs and fully protect every American citizen in the pursuits of life, and happiness at home as well as abroad.

We believe our money is and should be, as sound as the government itself, and that the poor man's dollar should be as good as the rich man's dollar.

We refer with great pride to the financial record of the Republican party, and call the attention of all voters who believe it is the cause of our present deplorable condition to the undeniable fact that from 1873 to 1892, for nearly 20 years, since the so called demonetization of silver, under republican rule and sound money our financial policy was never impaired, our gold reserve did not disappear to foreign lands, and for more than 25 years previous to the Cleveland administration we were paying the public debt at \$80-000,000 per year.

Resolved, that the action of the Detroit Tribune at the present time is a disgrace to American journalism and American politics, and should be repudiated by honest men of all parties.

The following delegates were elected: To State Convention—O. A. Ingerson and Jay Allen.

Congressional—C. F. Kelley and M. A. Bates.

Senatorial—F. E. Wolfe and R. D. Connine.

Representative—H. Funck and D. McCormick.

D. McCormick introduced a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the delegates to vote for Hazen S. Pingree for Governor, with no second choice.

We have been informed confidentially, by a leading democrat, that owing to the large accessions to the republican party in Grayling township that they would not put a ticket in nomination.

**DR. J. A. ELLIS,** DENTAL SURGEON. OFFICE IN GOUPIL BUILDING, GRAYLING, MICH. Crawford County Farmer's Association. The annual meeting of the Crawford County Farmer's Association will be held at the Odell School House, on Saturday, August 8th, 1896, at 2 o'clock p.m. All are invited to attend. H. FUNCK, Sec.

**WE Want TO CLOSE OUT EVERY STRAW HAT IN STOCK.** In order to do so will make a uniform reduction of **25 PER CENT** On all STRAW HATS. **JOE ROSENTHAL.** THE ONLY ONE PRICE Dry Goods, Clothing Hat, Cap & Carpet HOUSE.

**VICTOR Athletic Goods** Are of the same high standard as Victor Bicycles. We manufacture a full line of Baseball, Football and Tennis Goods, of highest grade; also all kinds of Athletic Clothing in stock and made to order. THE VICTOR TRADE MARK IS GUARANTEE OF FINEST QUALITY. **OVERMAN WHEEL CO.,** MAKERS OF VICTOR BICYCLES AND ATHLETIC GOODS. Boston, New York, Detroit, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Ore.

**Fournier's Drug Store** IS HEADQUARTERS FOR HAMMOCKS, BASE BALL GOODS, Croquet Sets, and the most complete Line of FISHING TACKLE in the city. **LUCIEN FOURNIER** PROPRIETOR.

**MICHIGAN CENTRAL F. & P. M. R. R.** (NIAGARA FALLS ROUTE.) IN EFFECT JUNE 21, 1896. Trains leave Grayling as follows: **GOING NORTH.** 4:25 P. M. Mackinaw Express, Daily except Sunday; arrives at Mackinaw, 8:30 P. M. 4:55 A. M. Marquette Express, Daily, arrives at Mackinaw 7:45 A. M. 9:00 A. M. Way Freight, arrives Mackinaw 5:00 P. M. 1:45 P. M. Mackinaw Accommodation; arrives at Mackinaw 6:00 P. M. **GOING SOUTH.** 5:05 P. M. Detroit Express; arrives at Bay City, 7:30 P. M. Detroit 11:15 P. M. 12:10 A. M. New York Express, Daily, arrives Bay City 4:00 A. M. Detroit, 8:10 A. M. 12:35 P. M. Bay City Accommodation, arrives at Bay City 5:35 P. M. O. W. RUGGLES, GEN. PASS. AGENT. A. W. OAKFIELD, Local Ticket Agt. Grayling.

**The NEW YORK WEEKLY PRESS** CRAWFORD COUNTY AVAVALANCHE, WILL BE SENT TO ANY ADDRESS, ONE YEAR, FOR \$1.35. Do you wish to keep in touch with the political field during the Presidential campaign? Are you fond of good stories? Do you want the latest and most accurate news? Are you a member of the G. A. R.? Does a weekly page of bright, forcible editorials appeal to you? Would you enjoy a page of clever wit each week? Would an accurate weekly market report be of service to you? If so, you want **THE WEEKLY PRESS.** Address all orders to THE CRAWFORD COUNTY AVAVALANCHE. Drop a postal to THE WEEKLY PRESS, New York, and a sample copy will be mailed you.

**PATENTS** Cereals, and Trade-Marks obtained, and all Patent business conducted for Moderate Fees. Our Office is Opposite U. S. Patent Office, and we can secure patent in less time than those remote from Washington. Send model, drawing or photo., with description. We advise, if patentable or not, free of charge. Our fee not due till patent is secured. A. P. HAMILTON, "View of Main Events," with names of actual clients in your State, county, or town, sent free. Address, **C. A. SNOW & CO.** Opposite Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

**Notice of Sale of Real Estate.** State of Michigan County of Crawford, J. S. S. In the matter of the estate of Henry Hill, deceased. Notice is hereby given, that in pursuance of an order granted to the undersigned, administrator of the estate of said Henry Hill, deceased, by the Hon. Judge of Probate for the County of Crawford, on the first day of June, A. D. 1896, there will be sold at public vendue, to the highest bidder, at the front door of the Court House, in the village of Grayling, in the County of Crawford, in said state, on Friday, the 31st day of July, A. D. 1896, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of that day, subject to all valid claims by mortgage or otherwise existing at the time of the death of said deceased, and also subject to the right of dower and the homestead rights of the widow and the minor child of said deceased therein, the following described real estate, to wit: All those certain pieces or parcels of land, lying and being situate in the village of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, and more or less particularly known and described as lots five (5) and six (6) of Block thirteen (13) of the village of Grayling, according to the record plat thereof. Dated, June 18th, 1896. **GEO. L. ALEXANDER,** Administrator.

**CH&D** CINCINNATI - DAYTON - CLEVELAND - DETROIT - CHICAGO - ST. LOUIS - ST. CINCINNATI - THE ONLY Direct Route From All Points In MICHIGAN AND CANADA TO LIMA, FINDLAY, DAYTON, INDIANAPOLIS, CINCINNATI & THE SOUTH. 3 SOLID TRAINS each way between Cincinnati & Dayton. For rates and full information, address D. B. TRACY, North'n Pass. Agt., Jefferson & Woodward Aves., Pittsburg, Mich. JOHN RASTABLE, Dist. Passenger Agt., 5 Bridge St., Toledo, Ohio. D. G. HAWKINS, Gen'l. Passenger Agt., Carey Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**UNCLE SAM'S Condition Powder** IS THE BEST MEDICINE for the General Ailments of Horses, Cattle, Hogs and Sheep. It purifies the blood, prevents disease and cures Coughs, Colic, Cholera, Hiccups, Worms, Distemper, &c. Nothing equals it for Hog Cholera. Honest and reliable in honest packages; used and warranted for over twenty years. Everyone owning a horse or cattle should give it a trial. Made by BARNETT PROCESSIONARY CO., Chicago, Ill. Uncle Sam's Amana and Farmer Jones' Horse Deal mulled from Uncle Sam's Nerve and Bone Linctament for Sprains, Bruises, Rheumatism, Stiff Joints, &c. Good night to the end of pain. Nothing so good for Man and Animal. Try it. **ADVERTISERS** or others who wish to examine this paper, or obtain estimates on advertising space when in Chicago, will find it on file at 45 to 49 Randolph St. The Advertising Agency of **LORD & THOMAS.**



It is said to be a memorable fact all along the course of the second month several legions of demons get into the besieged, as well as the besiegers. And when the latter happen to be barbarians, the result is often ultra-infernal, as after the capture of Kherson, where Gougar Khan, the leader of the Mongol invaders, ordered the survivors to be flung into a pit that had been loaded with explosives, and then put fire to the fuse.

Hence also the sensation of horror that thrilled the civilized world at the report that the mining town of Bulawayo had been surrounded by the vindictive race of the Dark Continent. Sir Samuel Baker mentions a case where that same tribe of savages disdained to make use of their spears, but leaped upon their prisoners like wild beasts to tear them with their claws and teeth.

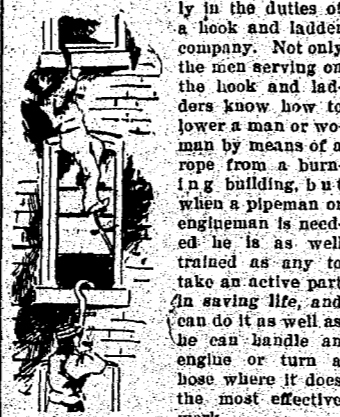
The trouble is that protracted sieges are always apt to rouse the beast under the skin of every male human being. The loss of relatives and friends turns political adversaries into personal enemies. The besiegers feel that every day of unsuccessful effort increases the slur upon their prowess, and long to be revenged. Alexander the Great was in sober moods anything but a savage, but the seven months' siege of Tyre exhausted his reserve funds of generosity, and when the city had been taken by storm he answered the appeals for mercy by showing the spokesman of the deputation a list of his own loss in dead and wounded, and then ordered an equal number of the captives to be crucified. The walls of the thousands of victims writhing on crosses and trees could be heard at Sadurial, at a distance of a league and a half. Another instance of barbarian severity attended the last siege of Carthage. The Romans were not satisfied with the complete demolition of the city, but employed several thousand carts for a week to scatter the many ruins, and then plowed up the site of the main

## MEN WHO FIGHT FIRE

### HOW THEY ARE TRAINED FOR THEIR WORK

Drilled in the Art of Scaling High Buildings—Handle Long Ladders with Wonderful Ease and Celerity—No Time Is Lost.

Powerful and Agile Athletes. Every fireman, engineer, and truckman in the service of the fire department of large cities is drilled weekly in the duties of a hook and ladder company. Not only the men serving on the hook and ladder know how to lower a man or woman by means of a rope from a burning building, but when a fireman or engineer is needed he is as well trained as any to take an active part in saving life, and can do it as well as a horse where it does the most effective work.



FOUR-MEN LADDER DRILL.

Although this drill usually takes place at every hook and ladder house on some day of every week, it never ceases to be an interesting sight to the neighbors and passersby. Men and boys are never too busy to stop and watch the blue-shirted men as they nimbly run up the ladder, and then pass it on to the window above.

When Marshal Horan and Capt. Thomas O'Connor, of hook and ladder No. 6, at Chicago, gave the order for

Each man came down from the top of the ladder upon which he had stood, and snap went three hooks upon the round of the ladder. The ladder at the top was as a wisp of hay in the powerful arms of the man at the third floor window. He took it from its place and quickly lowered it to the man below. This one passed it on with the same rapid movement, and in a second more it was on the ground and resting against the building. Down ran the three men. The one who had removed the ladder stepped aside, and his place was taken by the next to dismount. The same course was taken until the



LOWERING MAN FROM A WINDOW.

three others were safely on the ground once more and the four ladders standing against the firehouse.

The two men drill is very similar, except that only two ladders are used, one man passing up the lower ladder to the man above him, and then running up the two ladders and in turn receiving the lower one from his comrade. The "one man drill" is performed



SAVING LIFE WITH THE NET.

a drill one day last week four men immediately began to get themselves ready. They were Lieut. James Cunningham, John Tierney, Patrick Sullivan, and William Thompson. The first thing done by the quartet was to bring into the alley upon which the engine house is situated four long ladders. Then they all fastened a broad leather belt about their waists. These were about six inches wide and in front had a tremendous hook of steel.

"Up you go," called Capt. O'Connor, and the four-men pomper drill began. The sixteen-foot ladders, with which the men practice when playing that lives are to be saved and that all egress by stairs is stopped by smoke and flame, were seized as though but a featherweight. At the top of each ladder is a long iron hook. "This is noticed so that it will catch in any window sill. The first man to mount fastened the ladder securely to the second story window and swiftly ran up the rounds. As soon as he reached the top he opened the big hook at his belt and snapped it about the top round. Then he put out his hands for the next



SINGLE MAN LADDER DRILL.

ladder, and it was quickly handed up to him. This he raised high in the air, hand over hand, fastened it on the third floor window, tried its strength to see that it was secure, then quickly ran up. As he went up this he was followed by the first ladder by the second man trailing below. As he reached each floor his maneuver was the same. When he reached the top of the second ladder the second man was at the top of the first. Both men hooked themselves safely and put out their hands for the ladder below. Quickly it was passed from the third man at the foot to the one on the top of the first ladder. By him it went to the fireman above. Then the third man ran briskly up and the fourth and last one began the mount. By the time he had reached the top of the ladder that stood firmly upon the ground his brother fireman had passed the fourth ladder to the man at the top. Here it was fastened to the summit of the tower, and the first man to mount was soon looking below to Capt. O'Connor for orders. "All the way down!" shouted the Captain.

And without one moment for breath the descent began.

## She Respected His Dignity.

A Scotch woman was returning by a train from a market town, where she had made a few purchases. Just as the last bell rang a fussy gentleman, elegantly dressed, and with a "mind-thyself" looking face, rushed into the compartment, flung himself hastily into a corner, pulled out an evening paper and proceeded to devour its contents. Hardly had he become seated when the woman (a kindly addressed him: "I am very sorry, sir, but—")

"I never listen to beggars," fiercely interrupted the gentleman. "If you annoy me further I'll report you."

The woman's eyes flashed, then twinkled. She said no more, and the old gentleman retired with an angry frown behind his paper.

All went merrily as a marriage bell until the train arrived at Cromdale, when the "kind wife," in stepping out, again addressed the churlish individual in the corner:

"I care not, sir, whether you report me or no, but I want that pound of butter you've been sittin' on for these last six miles."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

## New Process of Making Maps.

William Kornmacher, a druggist in South Scranton, Pa., has discovered a process of relief map-making which makes a new era in that art. They are made by a chemical process, and the largest country can be done in three hours, and, not being used, the clearness of the process is easily understood. The negative is done in plates of paraffin, and from it the relief can be finished in one hour. The countries are accurately represented, the mountain ranges elevated in proportion to one another, and the river courses are shown in depression, and the maps can be colored and names imprinted thereon. This process can be used in the manufacture of innumerable other articles.

Brown—Have you read this article upon "How to Tell a Bad Egg?" Jones—No, but if you have advice to tell a bad egg, my advice is to break it gently.—Up-to-Date.

## SERMONS OF THE WEEK

Manhood.—The world needs not more men, but more man.—Rev. O. W. Guillette, Methodist, Cincinnati.

Grief.—Solitary grief is the most severe burden to humanity.—Rev. F. B. Webb, Presbyterian, Columbia, Tenn.

The Bible.—We are not called upon to defend the Bible. The Bible will take care of itself.—Rev. Dr. Barron, Baptist, Dallas.

Flirtation.—Mother Eve was the first flirt, and the whole human race has been similarly afflicted ever since.—Rev. A. B. Chalmers, Christian Church, Cleveland.

Peace.—America has taught the world that the supremely good soldier loves peace and deplores the horrors of war.—Rev. A. R. Rich, Methodist, Dubois, Pa.

Prayer.—Prayer is the telephone over which we talk and receive an answer. It is the lever by which the rocks are moved.—Rev. F. H. Shedd, Presbyterian, Sioux City, Iowa.

Secession.—Whatever may be true in earthly politics, and I am intensely Southern in my instincts and sympathies, in the kingdom of heaven there can be no right of secession.—Rev. R. H. Cotton, Episcopal, Dallas.

Creed.—One might as well expect to get well by handling pills as to be saved by a creed. Whether one be a Methodist or Presbyterian or Episcopalian is a matter of small importance.—Rev. J. I. Vance, Presbyterian, Nashville.

Happiness.—We must give ourselves to others before we shall and our own choicest joy. The true happiness of life is not found in the getting, but in the giving. And we can get happiness in no other way.—Rev. Dr. Putnam, Presbyterian, Loganport, Ind.

Devout Mothers.—A devout, pious mother contributes more to the propagation of religion and the strength of a nation than the sermons of Augustine or Chrysostom or the transcendent eloquence of Burke or Webster.—Rev. F. Riordan, Catholic, Lawrence, Mass.

Home.—There are so-called religious homes that are like tombs, joyless, dark, parents long-faced, sanctimonious, ligoted, forever drawing out heartless prayers and making Sunday a day to be dreaded above all days of the week.—Rev. H. H. Harbour, Baptist, Columbus, Ohio.

Politics.—The heterogeneous composition of our American cities makes it possible for the unscrupulous leader to bargain and deliver masses of votes in great blocks. The perfectly natural result is a debauched city government.—Rev. B. B. Howard, Presbyterian, Los Angeles.

The Stage.—Out of any 100 plays in the best theaters to-day it is acknowledged that not over three are ever of any use whatever in teaching anything for the good of the race. Anything taught must be good to be elevating, and then it must be true.—Rev. W. T. Foster, Methodist, Spokane, Wash.

Immigration.—The gulf between the working classes and the church is largely due to foreign immigration, the people coming from countries where English is not spoken, and for that reason, when they get here, they have no desire to go to church and listen to English preachers.—Rev. A. J. Waugh, Presbyterian, Cleveland.

Health.—There is nothing so cheap as health; nothing so expensive as disease. Good real restoratives are very cheap. Sunlight, beauty, fresh air and water are supplied at low rates to those who go to the right market, while the compounds of the apothecary are always costly.—Rev. Jenkins Lloyd Jones, Chicago.

Religious Training.—A lack of religious training is the trouble of our times. Boys are left to decide for themselves whether or not they will go to church or Sunday school. Going depends only on their youthful whims, which are more changeable than the winds. Parents think nothing of the absence of their children from the church services.—Rev. W. S. Hoskinson, Lutheran, Sacramento.

Education.—Education has to do with the soul of man, and religion is the attitude of that soul toward God. The former is a question of training and enlargement, the latter a question of attitude. Thus we see that true religion must favor education, and education should lead on to religion. That education which fails to build up a pure character is dangerous to mankind.—Rev. G. H. Humanson, Methodist, Duluth.

Success.—Virtue and victory are wedded. No man can divorce them. The knight of our day must not only be chivalrous, but Christly. The flashing scimitar which will cut its way through the serried ranks of opposing hosts is the sword of the Spirit. No armor is invulnerable save the enfolding of divine love. The cross is the symbol of victory. Christliness insures celestial coronation.—Rev. A. Z. Conrad, Congregationalist, Worcester, Mass.

Degeneration.—The people, the workers, are letting go of the Bible. The mass of the people are not reading the Bible, not hearing it read. Park Street Church, Boston, as a means of grace, cost \$600,000, and seats 1,500 people who can afford the luxury. The only preacher who has succeeded in filling it in later years called it a "religious club house." There are a great number of religious club houses in cities and villages.—Rev. M. W. Reed, Independent, Denver.

## A New Reflector.

M. Henry, a French savant of the school of higher studies, has revealed the power of sulphate or zinc to absorb sunlight and give it back in the dark. A powder produced from this mineral gives a soft luminosity to a fair young face. A cyclist dusted all over with the same material is in himself a lamp on a pitch dark night. Damp will not spoil the effect. Rain is incapable of dimming its brightness.

## VEST'S START IN LIFE

His Tote on a Crowd of Poker Players Drove Him West.

One of the conspicuous figures in the Chicago convention was Senator Vest, of Missouri. Vest, says a correspondent, is a Kentuckian. He began life by monkeying with a poker game that was foreign to him. It was at a little village on the Ohio River. Vest was a poor boy and did not play poker. Draw poker is only for very rich men. That night a game was raging in the cabin of a flatboat, which was moored to the levee. The temper of the town was fitful and they indicted folk who played poker. So the judge and the prosecuting attorney and others who desired relaxation went down to this flatboat so that the town would not get onto their sinful curves and put a crimp in them. Vest came strolling along about 10 p. m. where the flatboat rose and fell on the sobbing tide. He perceived the poker game in its criminal progress. Vest loved a good jest, so he quietly made loose the lines of the flatboat and cast the poker game adrift on the dark, shimmering bosom of the river. The malefactors played on, little heeding that they were now afloat. At 4 o'clock a. m. old man Taylor had won \$70 in Mexican silver money. Then he got cold feet. Old



SENATOR VEST.

man Taylor said he had promised his wife that he would come home early. The others jeered. This did not spoil old man Taylor. He snatched his spout about his heaviest old frame and saying "adieu" left the cabin of the flatboat, and carefully picked his way overboard into about twenty feet of water. He was fished out and rolled on a barrel by the other players to get the water and the money out of him. When they at last were towed back to town and found the entire village awaiting them at the levee, they began to hate Vest for the jocosely role he had played. They at once laid for the coming Senator with sixshooters. Now, if there is one thing about Vest more than another, it is the fact that he's what they call old Vest "gun-shy." Vest won't stand for artillery a moment. So he fled westward and went so fast he simply burned up the region lying between Kentucky and Missouri. Afterward Vest grew up with the country.

## JOHN R. McLEAN.

Man Who Came Near Being a Vice Presidential Candidate.

John R. McLean, who was second in the race for the Vice Presidential nomination in Chicago, is plucky in everything he undertakes. He was a baseball catcher one time, and a more determined one never faced a pitcher. Harry Wright was one of the men he caught for, and that was before the days of masks and stomach pads. After his baseball enthusiasm was partially knocked out by a foul tip, which took him to a dark room for two months to repair an impaired eye, his next ambition was to print the best newspaper in Ohio.

He inherited the Cincinnati Enquirer from his father, and while there may be some question as to the realization of his efforts he has certainly succeeded in building up an extremely influential and profitable newspaper. Then he fell a victim to the wiles of Cupid and married Miss Mary T. Beale, daughter of General Edward F. Beale, of Washington. The bride was about 25 years old at that time and the groom ten years her senior. He has one of the sweetest of the swell houses in Washington, entertains handsomely and has



JOHN R. McLEAN.

among his guests the biggest men of both the Republican and Democratic parties. Two or three years ago he said he would not accept any political position, but preferred the life of a private citizen. Mr. McLean is very wealthy. Some people estimate he is worth \$20,000,000. He is a large holder of real estate in Cincinnati, a heavy owner of street railway stock, in Washington and the chief stockholder in the principal gas plant of that city. He is about 45 years of age, handsome, practical and far-seeing in a business sense.

## A Giant of the Sea.

A monster iceberg stranded near Hampton Beach, N. H., a few days ago, but floated away the following day. It was as big as a church, and it had a marked effect on the temperature in the vicinity.

Palmer—"You can never convince me that women will succeed in politics." Folk—"Why?" Palmer—"How are you ever going to keep them from talking?"—Philadelphia North American.

Brown—Confound it! There's that mosquito again. Smith—Well, don't slap your face like that. He'll take it for an encore.—Puck.

A man's sins will not find him out as soon as his wife.



The glorious Fourth has passed away. The day dawns bright with cheer. The small boy's chances to survive are good for one more year.

—Washington Star.

Poet—How do you know the editor isn't in? Office-boy—From your looks.—Puck.

First Tramp—Wuz you ever married? Second Tramp—Well, I just wish I had all the allometry I owe.—Puck.

Weren't you surprised when he proposed? "No; why should I be?" "Everybody else was."—Harlem Life.

Never Touched Her! He—Don't you ever tire of talking? She—(quickly)—It depends upon who is talking.—Vogue.

Artist—That man Bacon offered me \$12 for that largest painting of mine. Caller—Oh, then you've had it framed?—Yonkers Statesman.

She—Young Baggie, I believe, takes his fancies well? He—Yas, splendidly; but it's a pity his horse doesn't take 'em at the same time.—Sydney Bulletin.

"There!" hissed the jealous Moor; "how do you feel now?" "Down in the mouth," gasped the irrepressible Desdemona from beneath her pillow.—Puck.

"It is simply astonishing the way the bicycle is displacing the horse!" "It is, indeed. Yesterday I found a piece of rubber tire in my sausage."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Mrs. Rechere (indignantly)—Did you tell Jim Jackson that of he married me he'd had a white elephant on heels hand? Miss Snodhake—No, indeed, I didn't! Do you think I see color-blind?—Puck.

Amicus—Why, do you use the expression funny joke? Aren't all jokes funny? Editor—Not by a long shot. The jokes that other fellows get off at your expense are never funny.—Truth.

"It seems to me, Miranda" mildly observed Mr. Meeks, "these cakes would be considerably improved by the addition of a little more ginger." "So would you, William," briefly responded Mrs. Meeks. Chicago Tribune.

"Well, girls, Jack and I are to be married at last, and we are so happy!" "Did you and Jack have some trouble in getting your father's consent?" "No, papa and I had a lot of trouble in getting Jack's consent."—Exchange.

Mrs. Brown—I have been so annoyed at my husband. He has been at the club every night for a week. Mrs. Jones—Why, so has my husband, and he said he hadn't seen anything of your husband for a week.—Brooklyn Life.

Wrangles—Well, Adam was a lucky man. Barker—in what particular way? Wrangles—He didn't have to dance around the garden like a lumbago idiot holding five on a hundred-dollar bike.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

She—it seems strange that men are no longer willing to do deadly combat for the love of a woman. He—Ain't it queer, though? Especially when women have so much more money of their own these days.—Indianapolis Journal.

"A woman's no means yes," said the man of 20, who naturally knows all about women. "That may be the rule," asserted the married one, "but it doesn't work both ways. Unfortunately a woman's yes doesn't mean no."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"I once knew a man," said the imaginative boarder, "who was so fat that he was actually taller lying down than when he was standing up. What do you think of that?" "It strikes me," said the cheerful idiot, "as pretty tall lying."—Indianapolis Journal.

A Dangerous Text: "Well, Uncle Rastbury, how did you like the sermon?" "Powerful fine sermon, Marse John." "Where did the preacher take his text?" "Trum dat potion ob de Scripture whar de Postol Paul pints his pistol to de Fesions."—Washington Times.

Fair Patient—Is there no way of telling exactly what is the matter with me? Dr. Emdee—Only a post-mortem examination would reveal that. Fair Patient—Then, for heaven's sake, make one. I don't see why I should be squeamish at such a time as this.—Puck-Me-Up.

"Modern society," observed the young man, contemptively, "has revived most of the old-time proverbs." "Yes," observed the chaperon, to whom he had just handed an ice, "for instance, nowadays we say, 'When the husband comes in at the door, the lover flies out of the window.'"—Exchange.

First Summer Girl—Are you going to that old Christian Endeavor meeting this evening? Second Summer Girl—Yes, indeed! Haven't you heard the subject to be discussed? First Summer Girl—No; what is it? Second Summer Girl—"How to Hold Our Young Men."—New York Press.

"I was very glad, Mabel, to see you among those who were received into the church last Sunday." "Yes, auntie, but I was so provoked with the clergyman! He gave me the old-style, unfashionable handshake. And he gets a salary of \$8,000 a year!"—Chicago Tribune.

In South America: Tourist—Why can't you put a stop to these continual insurrections? Native—We are considering a measure now which may have a tendency in that direction. It is proposed to reduce the President's term of office to three weeks, and to provide that he shall not be eligible for a second term.—Puck.

"Rastus, you infernal nigger, you told me that mule was perfectly safe, and when I went into the stable he nearly kicked the top of my head off." "Yes, sah; I sayed de mule wuz safe, sah. But ef you kin recollect, I didn't say nuffin' about wedder it was safe in his vicinity. Dat mule is able enough to be safe anywhar."—Washington Star.



## THE JOKER'S BUDGET.

### JESTS AND YARNS OF THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Perhaps He Favored the Home Team—Hard on the Hotel—Onto it at Last—the Exception to the Rule.

#### ACCORDING TO NATURE.

She—Don't you always pity a girl who is frightened in the dark?  
He—Naturally; I cannot help feeling for her.

#### RIVALS.

"Well, what do you think? That 'goose' offers himself in this letter."  
"I don't blame him. He's tired being refused."

#### A REMINDER.

He—Miss Edgerton reminds me of delicate piece of china.  
She—Hand-painted?

#### HE LOOKED TO THE RIGHT AND LEFT.

Miss Wheeler—Isn't the scenery beautiful along that road?  
Ryder—Very! I'm using coat plaster and ammonia on account of that scenery.

#### HARD TIMES.

"Where are you going to take you family this summer, Hicks?"  
"To Coney Island."  
"What? For the summer?"  
"No; for a day."

#### WOULDN'T HAVE THE CHANCE.

Mrs. Newell—I acknowledge that I have my faults and am sometimes cross, Jack, dear, but if I had the last two years of my life to live over again I should marry you just the same.  
Mr. Newell—I doubt it.

#### PROOF.

"I tell you, I drank nothing but soda."  
"But you tried for five minutes to light your cigar at—"  
"I couldn't reach it."  
"At an electric light."

#### HE COULDN'T HELP IT.

Old Longneck (severely)—Young man, do you love your neighbor as your self?  
Young Tugall (enthusiastically)—You bet! And, say, you just ought to see her—curly hair, dimples in her cheeks and not a day over nineteen!

#### FROM DAD TO BOSS.

Arthur—I think we had better go further in and bug—  
Emily—Why, Arthur! Aren't you ashamed of yourself!  
Arthur—the shore.  
Emily—Mr. Merriam, take me to shore at once!

#### AT THE SUMMER HOTEL.

May—And you told your mother that he had been introduced to you?  
Ethel—Well, he was introduced to me.  
May—By whom?  
Ethel—By himself.

#### POWL LANGUAGE.

Chick—Ma, that hen setting over there has laid seven eggs to-day. She's quite a phenom, isn't she?

Old Hen—My son, I wish you would refrain from using such vulgar slang. Why do you not call her a phenom hen on?

PERHAPS HE FAVORED THE HOME TEAM.  
First Girl—She doesn't understand baseball at all.

Second Girl—No?  
First Girl—No. Why, the other day she went to a game and fell in love with the umpire.

#### HARD ON THE HOTEL.

"What sort of climate have you?" inquired the prospective guest.  
"First rate," said the proprietor of the summer resort. "Cool and bracing; creates a great appetite. Why, our guests declare that they are as hungry after a meal as before."

#### ONTO IT AT LAST.

"Great Scott!" said the mosquito, as the jet of air from the punctured bicycle tire struck him, "what a low trick these cyclers are putting up on us! But then—"

He hummed meditatively.  
"Luckily I've got wind of it!"

#### THE EXCEPTION TO THE RULE.

"Everybody is grumbling about the hot weather."  
"Not everybody. The summer hotel keepers haven't made any kick as yet about the hot weather."

#### SEEMED TO NEED AN OPINION.

City Boarder—Can't anything be done for those poor chickens of yours?  
Farmer—What is the matter with 'em?  
Boarder—Insomnia—none of them could sleep a wink after four o'clock this morning.

#### ONE OF JOHNNIE'S SISTERS.

Johnnie Chaffie's sister, Lillie, is somewhat given to blurring. A few days ago Mr. Phoneyman asked her:  
"Miss Lillie, were you born in March?"  
"Why no, Mr. Phoneyman; why do you ask?"  
"I didn't know but you were born in March, as you have some arch ways about you."

#### ALL THE REQUISITES.

"So you have written a novel?"  
"Yes."  
"Has your heroine satin skin, velvet eyelashes and hair like threads of spun gold?"  
"Yes."  
"Is her name Gwendoline?"  
"It is."  
"Then I don't see why it shouldn't be a success."

#### UNREAL LIFE OF KINGS.

This young man—the Kaiser Wilhelm—from all I have observed since he became my neighbor in Venice (writes Mr. Zangwill in Astor's magazine) lives a highly colored dramatic existence, in which there are sixty minutes to every hour and sixty seconds to every minute, the sort of life that should have pleased Walter Pater. He must be a disciple of Nietzsche, a lover of the strong and the splendid, this German gentleman, who is just off to Vienna to prance at the head of 1,500 horsemen. While he lived opposite me it was all excursions and alarms. As a neighbor an emperor is distinctly noisy.

And yet, this strange life, a king's, what an unreal universe of flags and cannons and phrases must monarchs inhabit. Do they think that the streets are always gay with streamers and bunting and triumphal arches, always thunderous with throats of men or guns, always impassable? Do they imagine their subjects pass all their lives in packed black masses, waving hats? Poor kings! I always class them with novelists for ignorance of real life. And to think that they can only get to know life from novels!

The Kansas wheat crop will be double that of 1895.

## HOW GUNPOWDER IS MADE.

### The Part That Each of the Three Ingredients Play.

Gunpowder then steadily developed as a mechanic skill constructed—better and better weapons in which to use it, until to-day it has reached a perfection of manufacture for various purposes which allows its effects to be foretold in any weapon, even to the time it takes a grain to burn, and to the distance it will drive a shot.

Roger Bacon's gunpowder was made of saltpeter, sulphur, and charcoal. Saltpeter is chemically called nitrate, and is a natural product found bedded in the earth in different parts of the world, chiefly in India and China. Sulphur, too, is found in a natural state in many volcanic countries, like Sicily, while, as is well known, charcoal is made from wood or woody substances by heating them almost to a burning heat in an airtight vessel, thus driving off everything in them but carbon.

Saltpeter, sulphur, and charcoal are still the only ingredients of the gunpowder in common use, although a new gunpowder made of different materials is undergoing successful experiments. A mixture of saltpeter and charcoal alone would form an explosive, and sulphur is added chiefly to make it plastic, or capable of being pressed into cakes and shapes. All these ingredients have to be purified by the most careful chemical skill before they are combined. Then an exact proportion of each has to be measured out according to the kind of powder to be made.

For the gunpowder generally used you would find in every hundred pounds, if you could separate the ingredients, seventy-five pounds of saltpeter, fifteen pounds of charcoal, and ten pounds of sulphur; but it would be almost impossible to separate the ingredients, for they are not merely mixed together as you might mix pepper and salt, but they are ground and rolled and stirred and pressed together by special machines until they are almost sufficiently united to form a single new substance.

This mixing process is called "trituration," and the powder is thus made into the form of big flat cakes, called press-cake, and then broken up, and screened into grains of special sizes, or ground to the fine powder used for shot guns and revolvers. The large grained powders are still further stirred together until the grains become highly glazed, and these are called cannon powders. A lighted match may be held to a grain of cannon powder and it will be found impossible to set it on fire, but once ignited it flashes off very suddenly and violently—St. Nicholas.

### Filling a Big Tooth.

One time in my early practice down East," said a dentist on State street, "I had the job of filling an elephant's tooth. The elephant, Jack by name, belonged to Sells circus, and, while not as big as Jumbo, he was by no means small. Jack was the best-natured animal of the herd and was of a most sanguine disposition.

"One day, however, when his keeper came to look after him, Jack made a vicious swing at him with his trunk, and then trumpeted loudly, showing in every way that he was angry about something. For several days this sudden change in Jack's disposition remained unexplained because nobody dared to go near enough to him to make a careful examination of his symptoms. It was noticed that when lying down he continually rubbed one jaw on the ground. The keeper at once concluded there must be something the matter with Jack's teeth. I was sent for, and after they had chained the elephant's legs so that he was unable to move, and swung his trunk up out of the way, I found a very badly decayed and quite sensitive tooth. When I touched it the elephant trumpeted loudly in pain.

"The attendants assured me that there were no weak links in the chain and that Jack's trunk was helpless, so I went on with the work. Finally, either because he had worn himself out, or had discovered that I was working for his good, the elephant was perfectly quiet until I had cleaned out the cavity and filled it.

"After that his pleasant temper returned, and when I went to see him some weeks later, in his winter quarters, he showed every sign of graceful recognition of my services. I received \$100 for the job."—Chicago Times-Herald.

### How the Mosquito Operates.

It has been said that although the mosquito is in reduced circumstances he has some of the best blood in the country in his veins. It is also interesting to learn that he is a skillful scientist, who draws blood as neatly as any surgeon. Indeed, his skill, minutely delicate as it is, is simply a tool box in which his delicate instruments are kept. One of them are exact counterparts of a surgeon's lance. One is a spear with a double-barrel head. The third an exquisitely fine needle. A saw and a pump go to make up this wonderful outfit. The spear is the largest of the instruments, and is used in making the puncture. Then the lances come into play, their work causing the blood to flow more freely. In case the blood does not flow sufficiently the needle and the saw are inserted in a lateral direction in the victim's flesh. The pump, the most delicate of all the instruments, is used in sucking up the blood. This is the scientific explanation of a mosquito bite. In spite of the beauty of the operation, scientifically considered, people make the same kind of a snap at the mosquito and give way to the same rude language—New Orleans Picayune.

### New Use for Glass.

By a new process glass is made to appear like wood with a very high polish. It is used in windows, and gives a peculiarly subdued and agreeable light. The glass is put through what might be called a veneering process, being coated with a liquid that represents the wood which it is desired to imitate. The color, after drying, is varnished over and slightly heated. Sometimes shadings are applied to bring out the tint, then the glass is again varnished and thoroughly dried, and is fit for use.

Montana mines yielded \$47,115,000 of minerals last year.

## A QUEER SUBSTANCE.

### ASBESTOS ABSOLUTELY FIREPROOF AND INDESTRUCTIBLE.

#### A Connecting Link Between the Animal and the Vegetable Kingdoms—Its Many Uses in Modern Life.

Asbestos is a curious sort of a connecting link between the vegetable and the mineral kingdoms, and since the discovery of methods of utilizing it to advantage it had steadily crept into favor in many curious ways. For instance, firemen in London and Paris, clad in asbestos clothing and masks, walk through the hottest flames with comparative impunity. Asbestos fireproof curtains have reduced the mortality of theatre fires in a very appreciable degree. In torpedoes, the difficulty of dealing with the charges of wet gun cotton is overcome by inclosing them in asbestos, the employment of which has also, in a great measure, brought the dynamite shell to its present efficiency. Asbestos is made into a cloth available for aeronautical purposes. A balloon made of this inflammable material escapes one of the most terrible dangers to which an ordinary constructed balloon is liable. Probably one of the first applications of asbestos in this country was to roofing. To buildings covered with this material the shower of sparks from a neighboring conflagration involves no danger. One of the largest branches of asbestos manufacture is that of sectional cylinders for pipe coverings, for retaining the heat of steam and other pipes, for frostproof protection for gas or water pipes and cement felting, which can be laid on with a trowel, for the covering of steam pipes, boilers or stills.

An interesting innovation in this class of manufacture is asbestos-sponge. It is not generally known that sponge has great powers of fire resistance. The discovery was made accidentally not long ago, and the result was that a consignment of scraps of sponge picked upon the southern coasts was ordered for experimental purposes. The sponge was finely comminuted and mixed intimately with asbestos fibre. The combination was found so successful for any covering which had to be fireproof as well as heatproof that the material has become standard. Being full of air cells, it necessarily makes an excellent non-conductor. Another very extensive department in asbestos manufacture is that of packings. Of these there are an infinite number of forms.

To the electrical engineer asbestos is absolutely indispensable. Many parts of electrical devices, and machinery and wires through which the electric current passes become heated, and were it not for the electrical insulating and heat-resisting qualities which asbestos possesses, the apparatus would be completely destroyed, particularly in the case known to electricians as "short circuiting." For such purposes it has been found advisable to combine asbestos with rubber and other gums, and this combination is now used universally for not only electrical, but also steam and mechanical purposes.

One of its special uses is for wall plaster. This is a new application which will have a distinct effect in modifying the practice of indoor plastering. Instead of the ordinary tedious and elaborate preparation of stucco and strips and the use of inferior and dust-creating mortars, with its after-scooping, which is necessary to give cohesion to the final coat of plaster of Paris, a single coating of the asbestos is laid on. It has a glossy surface that will not crack, as, while firm, it is perfectly flexible. It can be put on the trowel brick, and a room of which the walls have been built in the morning can before night have a smoothly finished interior surface, shining like glass and hard as a rock. A kindred application of asbestos is now coming into vogue in the shape of unimflammable decorations for walls and ceilings. These are used a great deal for the saloons of steamships. They are embossed in very beautiful designs, and can be treated with gold, varnish, lacquers or any other substance for the enhancement of their ornamental effect.

In itself, asbestos is a physical paradox, a mineralogical vegetable, both fibrous and crystalline, elastic yet brittle, a floating stone, but is capable of being carried, spun and woven as flax, cotton or silk. In appearance it is light, buoyant and feathery as thistle-down; yet, in its crude state, it is as dense and heavy as the solid rock in which it is found. Although apparently as perishable as grass, it is older than any order of animal or vegetable life on earth. The dissolving influences of time seem to have no effect upon it. The action of unnumbered centuries, by which the mountains known to geologists are worn away, has left no perceptible imprint on the asbestos found imbedded in them.

While much of its bulk is of the roughest and most gritty materials known, it is really as smooth to the touch as soap or oil. Seemingly as combustible as tow, the fiercest heat cannot consume it, and no known combination of acids will destructively affect the appearance and strength of its fiber, even after days of exposure to its action. It is, in fact, practically indestructible. Its incombustible nature renders it a complete protection from flames, but beyond this most valuable quality its industrial value is greatly augmented by its non-conductivity of heat and electricity, as well as by its important property of practical insolubility in acids.

Asbestos has been found in all quarters of the globe. It comes from Italy, China, Japan, Australia, Spain, Portugal, Hungary, Germany, Russia, the Cape, Central Africa, Canada, Newfoundland, Texas and other parts of this country, and from Southern and Central America. The asbestos of different countries is as varied as the characteristic foliage. The smooth and white, rock-like form of the mineral from the Pyrenees, is an absolute contrast to the harsh and brittle tremolite of Serbia, unpleasant to handle, with its fine needles, like the particles of slag wool, which insidiously penetrate the skin. The Canadian variety is long, soft and silky, its silvery white or pale gold tints resembling skeins newly wound from a cocoon, while the singular Scandinavian forms are rough and rugged as the country from which

they come. It may be said here that while the appearance of asbestos is so often very deceptive as a gauge of its commercial value, the points most sought for in the mineral are the length and fineness of fiber, combined with infusibility, toughness and flexibility.

### POWER FROM REFUSE.

#### Electric Lighting and Other Uses of Power From Garbage.

Garbage and town refuse disposal is one matter where the cities of Europe are far ahead of those of this country. An ideal plant of this kind is that at Rochdale. Investigators have all agreed that burning is the best way to dispose of the accumulations. This preference is due to the fact that by this method not only is all organic matter liable to putrefy and become a menace to the health of the community destroyed, but it has been found by actual trial that the heat derived from the burning of this refuse may be used for the production of steam, which can be utilized for commercial purposes, and the revenue received from this source may be sufficient to more than pay for the cost of burning. There are no less than fifty-five such destructors in different parts of England. The health committee of Rochdale, a manufacturing town of 78,000 inhabitants, recently adopted the method, with the idea of utilizing the steam produced for electric lighting purposes. It being found that this rough, unscrupled refuse, running as much as 35 per cent. of clinker and ash, will evaporate 1.5 pounds of water for every pound of refuse burned, under boilers built to produce steam at 120 pounds pressure. Coal burned in the same boilers evaporated seven pounds of water per pound of coal. The two boilers have a grate furnace of forty-five square feet each. In building the two destructors cells a large combination chamber, common to both, was provided between them and the boilers, so that the gases could intermingle, and that time should be allowed for the combustion of gases before they came in contact with the comparatively cold surface of the boiler, noting the fact that if once the organic matter in the fumes were heated sufficiently high no amount of subsequent cooling down could again make them malodorous.

It is interesting to note that it is not necessary to use coal to aid in the burning of this refuse. The plant has been able to produce 340 brake horse power, burning two tons of refuse per hour. This high efficiency is obtained with ordinary boilers by using a forced draught. The weight of the refuse is reduced two-thirds and the volume three-fourths.

The author says in conclusion: "The disposal of two-thirds of the refuse completely is an important matter, but when to this is added the fact that the remaining third is rendered quite free from any organic matter whatever, it is past conception that corporations and local companies will continue to tip such immense quantities of putrefactive matter away, when, if they put in suitable appliances and used the steam which can be produced, the refuse might be burned and a profit made on the transaction."—Cassell's Magazine.

### NEW YORK'S FOOD SUPPLY.

#### Enough Always on Hand to Withstand a Four Months' Siege.

"If the city of New York and the neighboring district," writes John Gilmer Speed in July Ladies' Home Journal, "were to be besieged or in some other way entirely cut off from the outside world, and therefore deprived of the food supplies which in normal times come in daily in great quantities, how long would it be before the pinch of hunger would be felt? That is a very hard question to answer, for the reason that there are such inequalities of purchasing capacity in New York society that some go hungry in times of greatest prosperity from lack of means, while the great majority get more than is good for them. Undoubtedly the number of those who always go hungry would be increased after two or three days of a siege, and then day by day this number would increase until the public authorities would feel compelled to take possession of the food supplies and distribute them among the people. With the exception of milk and some other things the supply of meat, poultry, hardy vegetables and fruits would last for two months at the present rate of consumption. If all the supplies were taken charge of at the beginning of the siege—and this could easily be done—the food within New York could be made to last for four months at least. The siege of Paris lasted only four months. Before two months had passed, high and low, rich and poor, had learned what hunger was. And, as is well known, the French are the most thrifty and economical people in the world. In the arrangement and disposition of food the Parisians are specially distinguished. But the food supply in New York could be made to last as long as the Paris siege lasted, and the people would still be comfortable."

**Bicycle Destroys Grazing Business.**  
"The bicycle besides doing other things good and bad," said the owner of a stock and pasture farm in Montgomery county, Md., "is playing sad havoc with the horse grazing business. The wheel does away with hundreds of horses, and the necessity for them, and consequently the number of horses sent out to pasture during the summer months is getting smaller and smaller each year. I am now plowing up and planting fields that have been constantly used for pasture for thirty years, simply for the reason that no horses are sent me for pasture, and I can not afford to let the fields remain non-producing."

"As far as the pasture business is concerned, though at one time it was profitable to many farmers within easy distance of Washington, it is a thing of the past. We had a taste of it last summer, which prepared us for it somewhat, but this season we have been convinced that we must have other sources of income. My experience is only that of others in the same business, and though the most of us are rather old to learn new tricks, we have to try to do so or get left with idle fields on our hands."—Washington Star.

**Earls take precedence of the younger sons of Dukes of the blood royal.**

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The timber wealth of the United States gives a yearly product of over a billion dollars, or more than twice the value of the entire output of all the mines. Yet nowhere on earth is the wealth of the forests wasted more wantonly than in this country.

In a recent address in New York, E. Francis Hyde declared that the 318 square miles of area of Greater New York was sufficient to accommodate with standing room all the inhabitants of the earth, 1,450,000,000 in number, and allow six square feet to each individual.

French authors will henceforth have power to have the books of their publishers examined in order to ascertain whether they have been paid their royalty in full. A decision has just been rendered in the case of Paul Bourget versus Lemerre. Lemerre, objected to an inspection of his books, and this was the cause of the suit.

Electric railways have displaced in the United States no less than 275,000 horses, says the Pittsburgh Dispatch. So many horses would require about 125,000 bushels of grain a day to feed them, amounting to 45,000,000 bushels a year. The loss of the commercial demand for this grain, in the cities where these railways run means an enormous loss of transportation tonnage for the railways—some 62,500 carloads. Here is a question of domestic economy that is serious.

Half-splitting on a legal technicality this time in Minnesota. The crime alleged was forgery, and the indictment charged the defendant with having fraudulently and feloniously uttered and disposed of a forged instrument then knowing the same to be forged. That would appear to the lay mind to be sufficiently definite. But it happens that the statute, in defining forgery, makes the crime to be the uttering of a forged document "as true." The words "as true" were omitted from the indictment, and this, in the opinion of the Supreme Court, was a fatal defect.

Dr. Toner, the venerable historian, who knows more than any one else about the private life of Washington, for he has made it a special study for half a century, says that the recently published story about a woman at Williamsburg, Va., being killed by the Father of His Country is untrue. Washington had many love affairs, but he never killed any woman. He was sentimental and susceptible, fell in love with a number of girls, and offered himself to several before he captured the pretty Widow Custis. But he was not a heart-breaker, and in all his relations with woman was sincere and honorable.

The importation of American horses into France is becoming a success that is not only stimulating to the national love for the honest penny, but to patriotic pride as well. The French will not yet acknowledge that our product equals their finest breeds, the Percherons, for instance, but as carriage horses draught animals, and perhaps for cavalry use they regard them as far superior to the corresponding class of horses bred in France. The French breeders are taking fright, and we may perhaps expect to see some sort of a contract-labor-alien-horse law passed by the French Parliament.

Lepers are not so uncommon in Europe as is generally thought. One was picked up in the Paris streets recently and sent to the St. Louis Hospital, where there were already six other patients with the same disease. There are isolated cases dotted all over France, while the lepers' hospital at San Remo and in Spain and Portugal are never without patients. They are gaining ground in Turkey and the Ionian Islands. Crete has 500 of them. They are most numerous, however, in Norway, where there are 800, and are rapidly increasing in Sweden, which has already 402. In British India there are 100,000 lepers. The disease infests Indo-China, Tonquin, China, and Japan, as well as Hayti, Trinidad, Guiana, Venezuela, Brazil and Paraguay.

"One of the most remarkable new departures in the freight business," said Mr. Omar H. Bartlett, general freight agent of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, "is the idea of being vegetables for shipping long distances. It has been tried spasmodically in other years, but never until this year was the plan carried out to any extent. Now the New Orleans shippers are being their vegetables right along. We have already this season hauled twenty-five cars to New York city alone that contained fresh vegetables, and the shipments to Boston, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Philadelphia and, in fact, to all the Northern cities, have followed out this new idea. You know, the shipment of cucumbers, cabbages, beans and all kinds of garden stuff have grown very rapidly in the past few years, and now the producers have found it necessary to ice them. The process of packing is quite interesting."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

**The Railroad Gazette says:** "The records of the new railroad building in the United States in 1896, which have been gathered, show that 717 miles of road has been built in the first half of the year. The total is not very different from the amount of railroad which has been constructed in the first half of any year, since the conditions in 1893 called a sharp halt in railroad building. Last year 622 miles of new road was built up to July 1, and the record in 1894, only 495 miles between January 1 and July 1, showed how decisively extension work had been stopped. It will be seen how greatly railroad extension has been checked by the conditions of the last few years, and there are no substantial signs that any large relative increase is to be expected in the near future. Much the largest mileage credited to any one company, of the total given for the six months, is that built by the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf—nearly 140 miles—in Arkansas, Texas and the Indian Territory. The second longest line was built by the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley road—55 miles—in California."

"The story of a small town in this State, twelve miles from Philadelphia," says the Long Branch Record, "forms a fitting lesson on good roads. In consequence of the bad roads the wagon-makers thereabout built 4 horse wagons to carry fifty-five bushel

baskets as a maximum load, which was regarded as a heavy one. Real estate has gone begging for years; there was no market for it. It has been impossible to settle up estates, because no buyers could be found for the land. A few years ago the people of the community woke up. The town issued \$40,000 worth of bonds and applied the proceeds to building good roads. As a result the wagon-makers in the vicinity are making 2-horse wagons to carry, not fifty-five bushel baskets, but loads made up of ninety to 125 bushel baskets, and still the loads are not regarded as heavy. Two horses are able to do more work than four horses formerly could do, and with greater ease. On the old roads two men and four horses with a wagon weighing 1,900 pounds could take two and a half tons of produce to market and bring back an equal weight of fertilizer, making one trip a day. Now, on the good roads, one man with two horses and a wagon weighing 2,300 pounds takes four tons to market, bringing back an equal weight, making four trips a day."

One of the most discouraging items shown by the recent official census is the rapid increase in the number of child labor in the United States. Hundreds of children who are barely old enough to leave the nursery, and who are scarcely able to distinguish between right and wrong, are brought face to face with the hard world and compelled to grapple with men in the fierce competition of life. This statement suggests a train of sad reflections. Without the power to resist evil and possessing none of these educational incentives which kindle a yearning for higher and better things, the consequences of this infantile exposure to the vice of the age are direful to contemplate. Some may escape uninjured and grow up into useful and vigorous men, but the great majority of these young tollers are in danger of drifting into the straits of error. In Chicago, where attendance on the public schools is compulsory, the report shows that a large number of children are employed in the stockyards, factories and business houses, devoting all the time which they can give after the expiration of school hours. One of the saddest phases of the stern necessity which compels these children to earn their daily bread is the fact that many of them are engaged in occupations which are not conducive to good morals. Even in Boston there are hundreds of children under twelve years old who sell papers, black boots, deliver messages and serve as cash and errand boys in large retail establishments.

### FENCE 400 MILES LONG.

#### Battles of the Australians With the Destructive Rabbit.

The New South Wales government, it may be remembered, offered a reward of \$125,000 to any person or persons who could suggest an efficient method of getting rid of the rabbit; but, although this liberal reward led to the receipt of no fewer than 2,000 schemes from all parts of the world, none of them was regarded as satisfactory, and the offer was withdrawn.

The final outcome of royal commissions, of intercolonial conferences and of the testing of every practical method of extermination, is that the most effectual method of dealing with the evil is found to be the construction of an efficient proof netting, by means of which the animals can be kept from acres not yet infested, can be shut off from food supplies and can be more effectually dealt with locally.

The length of some of these fences is enormous. There is one starting at Barrington, on the Queensland border, and following the Main Trunk line from Bourke to Corowa—a distance of 407 miles; and there is another along the entire western boundary of New South Wales—a distance of 346 miles. The Queensland government, too, has erected a similar fence along a considerable portion of the northern boundary of New South Wales, but the surveyor general of Queensland, in the report already referred to, says that "the rabbits must have come through the fence in mobs and droves of innumerable multitudes at some time," and thus have established themselves in Queensland as well.

This, of course, is the weak point in regard to fences, which are liable to break down in places, more especially in times of flood and where they cross over creeks, while keeping of constant supervision over the fences, so that immediate repairs can be done when openings appear, is quite impracticable where the distances are so great. In many instances countless thousands of rabbits have been seen on one side of a fence dead or dying of starvation, after eating all the available food supplies, and leaping up at the fence in their attempts to surmount it. One can imagine how they would rush through in the event of any opening appearing, and how a single break in the fence might be the doom of a country not previously infested.

### A Novel Storm Pit.

H. J. Petrus has built a novel and unique storm pit at Healing Springs. He informed us that he had been troubled a great deal by nervous guests who came from cyclone districts, and built the storm pit to relieve their anxieties. The pit is built under the hill in such a manner that it would be impossible for the severest storm to reach it, and is so arranged that should all the cottages at the Springs be blown thereon and burned it would not affect the refugees in side. Ample provisions have been made for ventilation, and it can be truthfully said Healing Springs has "a refuge in time of storm."—Washington (Ala.) News.

### Sleeps in Two Counties at Once.

There is probably but one person in the State of Pennsylvania, says the Philadelphia Record, who can boast that he sleeps with his head in one county and feet in another. Joseph Wilson of near Allentown, who is at the present time studying at the Philadelphia School of Design, claims that when he is at home he rests with his head in Lehigh County and his feet in Northampton. He says the house he lives in stands on the dividing line of the two counties, and his bed lies directly across the line. There is also a bed in the same house which is bisected from head to foot by the county line, so that two persons may lie side by side and yet be in two different counties.

## Merciful Bullets.

English military men are endeavoring to determine whether the bullet for their new service rifle, the Lee-Metford, which has taken the place of the Martini-Henry, is not actually too merciful in its action. The object of war is to disable the enemy, and not to kill him, but apparently the new rifle bullet fails to do either, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The report on the use of the projectile in the Transvaal says that the injuries which were made by the Lee-Metford were much cleaner and healed much more quickly than those from the Martini-Henry. Both the entrance and exit orifices were exceedingly small, and so clean were the wounds internally that in one instance a burgher who had been shot clean through the lungs was convalescent a few days after admission to the hospital.

It is true that where the bone is struck the effect is most violent, but there can be no doubt whatever that the perforation of the organs and fleshy part of the body by the new bullet more often than not absolutely fails instantly to disable the victim, unless, of course, a really vital organ of the body is struck. The wounds on the other hand, which were made by the Martini-Henry bullets, were, the report states, of a much more serious nature, namely, "larger, jagged, slow healing, with bad entrance and worse exit." Many instances were related of the merciful properties of the new English bullet during the Chitral campaign, and this latest report is likely to give greater emphasis to the question. Not only does the bullet fail to stop a man, but, judging by many accounts, it inflicts very little pain, presumably on the same principle as the popular scientific experiment which shows a rabbit peacefully chewing its food while a rapidly revolving knife is cutting its ears into ribbons. The horrors of the next great war perhaps will not be so great as some people imagine.

### An Eccentric Vegetarian.

News has come from Jamaica, West Indies, of the death of one of the most remarkable monomaniacs that has ever been known. His name was Boeter, and up to two years ago he was a well known lieutenant in a crack corps of German hussars. But one day, without any apparent reason or excuse, Lieutenant Boeter announced that he had become a vegetarian—or, more strictly speaking, a "fruitarian." In order to carry out his fad, or his mania—for such it speedily became—he resigned his commission and embarked on a tour which should take in every country and clime of the globe. He believed in nothing but vegetarianism, and he determined to discover the modern Garden of Eden, if it existed, even though he traveled all his life in the attempt.

Europe was, of course, out of the question—it was too circumscribed; so he started for the sunny East, and landed in Java. But here his strange quest was unavailing. He then started for Ceylon, and visited in turn, Egypt, Turkey, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia and India, but failed to find what he wanted. Herr Boeter had money galore, his time was his own, and so he returned to London with a view of starting afresh. As a companion he picked up another "fruitarian," and they embarked together for the Indies. They reached Jamaica last January, and once more began the hunt for the unobtainable. They journeyed about the island, visited several of the same villages and, as the reason of their visit and the object of their mission had been spread abroad, the simple inhabitants peered at them with unusual curiosity.

But the climate of Jamaica is deadly unless one is used to it, and it was not long before Herr Boeter and his fellow traveler were both suffering from the fever. He said that he did not suffer any, but merely felt tired, and decided to return to Kingston for a rest and convalescence, swinging in a hammock under the palms. He reached Kingston on a Friday, but refused to see a doctor. He died the next night. His companion has decided to abandon his fruitarian theories and return home as speedily as possible.

### Mica.